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Kidnapper gets 15 years jail after 'long and difficult prosecution'

Dieter Zlof, found guilty of at least a part in the abduction and blackmail case involving industrialist's son Richard Oetker, has been sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment by a Munich court.

It has been a cause célèbre entailing more than three years' search for the culprits in difficult circumstances, with no confessions and no fingerprints to go on.

Zlof was sentenced on the basis of what defence lawyers claimed was the flimsiest circumstantial evidence.

Judge Zeiler, heading a five-member panel, including two lay magistrates, talked at one point in his four-hour summing-up in terms of a mosaic.

For impartial observers of criminal proceedings and their technicalities it has been an intriguing case; for the cause of justice it has been a real toe-biter.

For members of the bench who took their work seriously, Herr Zeiler felt, it had entailed stretching to the limits the court's ability to give the case a fair hearing.

Zlof was also sentenced to repay Messrs Oetker & Co. DM21m in ransom money and Richard Oetker, the hijack victim, DM60,000 in damages.

The damages award was deemed symbolic in view of what Herr Oetker had already been through at hospital and the surgery and medical care he was likely to continue to need.

The bench were able to study the character of the man in the dock for more than six months. They were also able to convince themselves of the trustworthiness of the chief prosecution witnesses, some of whom were cross-examined for hours on end.

Sceptics may object that the court's impression is all very well but most subjective and they would, of course, be right, as the court itself conceded.

Judge Zeiler said he and the other members of the bench were only human and might thus be mistaken. He even quoted the Biblical adage: "Judge not, that ye not be judged upon."

He did so to counteract any impression that the court was merely a rubber stamp, passing sentence as recommended by the prosecution.

He also did so by way of pointing out that considerable sins of omission and commission by the police in the early stages of investigations had made the court's work extremely difficult.

Mistakes had been made, he said, that were incomprehensible even in the context of a well-nigh perfect crime.

It was, he said, planned ingeniously and carried out in cold-blooded efficiency. He even wondered whether public opinion might not have admired the successful ransom bid if only Richard Oetker had not been crippled.

If only the DM21m ransom had been paid and the victim returned to his family unharmed, the judge mused, it might have been a different tale altogether.

But Herr Oetker had suffered grievous bodily harm. He was a "likeable young man" who arrived even at the final session of the court case using crutches.

The judges were obviously influenced in their sentence by the blackmailers' failure to call off the operation as planned when the victim, hidden in a crate, was seriously injured by an electric shock.

"I cannot imagine an offence for which the maximum sentence would be more appropriate than in this case," said the presiding judge.

The blackmail victim, an unquestionably likeable person, was felt by the court to be subjectively determined "beyond doubt" to arrive at the truth.

He was the first prosecution witness to identify Zlof as his gaoler, the man he had nicknamed Checker.

He had heard Checker's voice time and again throughout two days and nights and he listened to Dieter Zlof throughout the four days on which he gave testimony.

The psychological pen portrait he had drawn up of Checker was, like his voice, felt by the court to match the accused well. "The court believes him," the presiding judge said of the blackmail victim.

The court also ruled that Checker and the telephone blackmailer were one and the same person, chiefly because the gaoler always knew all about the phone calls and the phone caller always knew how the blackmail victim was getting on.

The blackmail letters were also thought to have been written by the man in the dock, albeit with no more than a summary reference to the striking similarity between the blackmailer's style and Zlof's own undisputed penmanship.

The court believed not only Herr Oetker but also Herr Margraf, who (again to quote Judge Zeiler) stood out positively from all other witnesses who identified the accused.

On 4 December 1976 Herr Margraf saw the Opel Commodore in which the blackmail victim was to be found 12 days later change hands at a used car market.

He had had several dealings with the purchaser and positively identified Zlof as the buyer of the Opel saloon. What was more, he had stuck to his story and not been put out of his stride by police interrogation and poring over photo files from the Criminal Records Office.

Dieter Zlof, the court ruled, is definitely the man who bought the Commodore in question.

It was less convinced by the testimony of a travel agent from Kufstein, Bavaria, who on 3 January 1977 took in payment six DM1,000 notes from the ransom money, but on balance was prepared to believe him when he said Zlof had been the man.

The case containing the ransom money had fitted like a glove inside the hideaway under the floor of van in a garage rented by Zlof.

It was, the presiding judge said, perfect camouflage on four wheels and would never have come to light had it not been for a quirk of coincidence.



Dieter Zlof

(Photo)

The accused had claimed t compartment under the floor of th was intended to carry gas cartridg Judge Zeiler commented disbelie "I should hate to have had to driv van with gas cartridges in there."

The court was also persuaded t Zlof, an auto mechanic by trade, t been working on a van with a mod crate on board, the vehicle in which t blackmail victim had been abducted.

On two points it failed to accept t prosecution's case as proven. By a large, it is fair to say, the panel judges did not take kindly to much what the prosecution made out a case.

The accused was felt not to have b identified conclusively as the man had bought a blanket used in the a tion and a sheet of latex foam blackmail victim had seen.

The sales assistants who claimed Z had been the purchaser might ha given their evidence in all good fait but the court was not convinced. It fe their memories might have misled the

But the item of circumstantial e dence that seemed really to have co vinced the court was the motive, mon

At the time of the abduction Zlof t virtually abandoned his lucrative job pairing and selling cars. Yet there w no way in which he could be sure earning a living and looking after t family after this date.

In the 25 months between the abd tion and Zlof's arrest he had lived w and spent much more than he co prove he had earned.

Even if he were credited with la won money at casinos, as he clai and his living expenses were estim at as low a level as reasonably po there was still a substantial gap fill unexplained income.

The accused was found to have jointly responsible for abduction mail and grievous bodily harm many accomplices did he have?

As far as one knows, the p not the slightest evidence to indicate the existence of an accomplice or acc plices. It is merely hard to ima DM21m blackmail operation being ied out singlehandedly.

An operation of this size is in vely felt to be the work of a gang but this, Judge Zeiler said, more than an emotional assumption.

While he too felt the accused have used accomplices (but only ful), he said that "with a man" li it was "even conceivable that committed the offence entirely o own."

Roswin Finkenz

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Z für Deutschland, 10 June 1



Hamburg, 3 August 1980
Nineteenth Year - No. 952 - By air

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C
ISSN 0016-8858

EEC Middle East moves make no headway

The European Community's Middle East peace initiative is occasionally reported to have been seen on the international political horizon in much the same way as the Loch Ness monster is periodically sighted.

But a mid-June bid to resurface it at the Venice EEC summit foundered on US opposition.

Europe's Middle East Nessie is back in business but seems reluctant to surface fully before the US Presidential elections in early November.

Unlike the Loch Ness monster, however, which is free from time restrictions, the Common Market peace bid is subject to certain conditions that are gradually threatening no longer to apply.

There is an increasing consolidation of hostile viewpoints among the two main protagonists, Israelis and Arabs.

Very little leeway is left for a mediation bid by the Nine be it ever so one-sided and doomed to failure.

The Israelis have legislated the unity and indivisibility of Jerusalem and Premier Begin is seriously setting about transferring his seat of government to the eastern part of the city.

At the UN Arab extremists plan to resolve an Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory in a matter of months.

Given this situation, Europeans in general and Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and his advisers in particular are fast coming to realise how limited their leeway is in reality.

They are coming to appreciate how unfulfillable expectations based on their announcement of an EEC bid to solve Middle East problems are.

There was no way in which the Nine could table a UN resolution of their own couched in more moderate terms. It was sure to be rejected by the Arabs.

Luxembourg Foreign Minister Gaston Thom was to tour Arab countries to sound out peace prospects in his capacity as chairman of the EEC Council of Ministers.

His visit, previously arranged, would be seriously handicapped by any such Common Market move. The Arab UN move, however, came as a surprise to the Foreign Ministries of the Nine.

So M. Thom was left with little option but to call at the UN for understanding of the European position. There was no question of seriously considering the proposals made by Arab extremists.

This possibility was ruled out not only by the special relationship between Bonn and Israel but also by consideration for the United States and Egypt who would have regarded it as an obstacle in the path of the Camp David accords.

Bonn was obliged to perform a similar diplomatic tightrope walk during the visit by Arab League secretary-general Chadli Klibi.

On the one hand M. Klibi had to be reassured the Nine had taken a step in the right direction with their Middle East resolution at the Venice summit, albeit no more than half-heartedly.

On the other hand Herr Genscher had to extricate himself from any attempt by the Arab League to give him a bear hug.

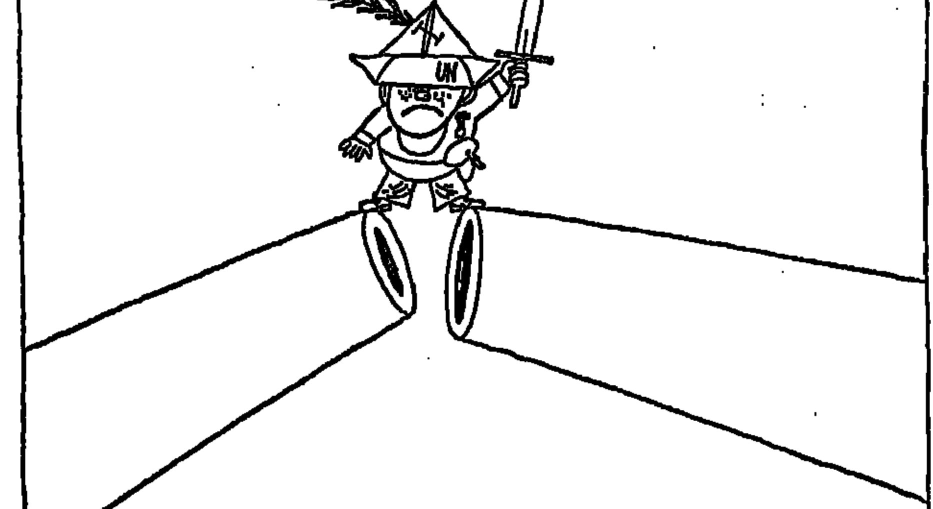
M. Klibi initially proposed a year's end conference of EEC and Arab League Foreign Ministers. He ended up by accepting a meeting between M. Thorn and a designated Arab Foreign Minister.

A full-scale meeting could prove embarrassing inasmuch as Palestine takes over as chairman of the Arab League in September.

Palestine being represented by the PLO, a full-scale gathering could end up with none other than Yasser Arafat in the chair. This is a test of their new Middle East policy the Nine could not afford to risk.

Most of the EEC countries have yet to go as far as France and recognise the PLO as the sole legitimate representation of the Palestinian people.

For the time being all the Nine can agree on is the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people.



(Cartoon: Ironimus/Die Presse, Vienna)

Many Arabs will find this hesitation incomprehensible. Prior to the Venice summit the Nine planned to revise UN Resolution 242, on which Western policy is bade.

It took the threat of a US veto to deter them. Yet at Venice they nonetheless ruled that the PLO must take part in talks, that unilateral changes in the status of Jerusalem must be rejected and that Israel must be called on to end its territorial occupation.

The EEC's inclination towards fine-sounding but hollow phrases has now come home to roost.

There is a world of difference between others and oneself sitting at the same conference table as the PLO, it seems.

Israel has annexed East Jerusalem de facto since the 1967 Six-Day War; it is now in the process of annexing it de jure.

As long as Mr Begin heads the Israeli government there will not even be progress on the so-called autonomy talks, let alone a return of occupied territories.

The Camp David process awaited by the United States and with it Western Europe would long since have been declared a failure if President Sadat were then left with any option other than a return to the influence of the Russians and Arab extremists, which would spell his downfall.

So the Egyptian President, in common with the United States and Western Europe, is awaiting the outcome of the US Presidential elections.

They are also biding their time to see which gives up the ghost sooner: Mr Begin's heart or his ruling coalition.

The EEC's Middle East policy is shortsighted precisely because Mr Begin's days are numbered. It saddles his probable successor, Israeli Labour Party leader Shimon Peres, with unnecessary mortgages.

Mr Peres would be prepared to return the West Bank to Arab control but plans to negotiate with King Hussein, not with the PLO, on the subject.

Any such attempt ought not to be jeopardised in advance by one-sided declarations favouring the PLO. Israel still holds the key to a solution of the Middle East problem.

Dieter Schröder

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 25 July 1980)

IN THIS ISSUE

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE No. 953 will be dated 17 August 1980

Vienna troop cut talks mark time

The Vienna MBFR troop cut talks in Central Europe, now in summer recess, are entering their seventh year with no sign of a disarmament breakthrough.

The initial position of the Warsaw Pact states has changed inasmuch as Moscow has in practice departed from its original viewpoint that troop strengths were already balanced.

Current Soviet proposals are based on the assumption of East bloc manpower supremacy. They include Mr Brezhnev's latest suggestion, made after Herr Schmidt's visit to Moscow.

The Soviet leader proposed a withdrawal of 20,000 Red Army troops from Central Europe in return for a withdrawal of 13,000 men by the United States.

Last December Nato made a similar proposal subject to a withdrawal of 30,000 Soviet troops, but Moscow would now like to see partial consideration of its unilateral withdrawal of 20,000 troops and 1,000 tanks from the GDR.

Western mistrust on this score is understandable inasmuch as there is no real way of telling whether the Soviet withdrawal from the GDR is bona fide.

For all Nato knows, the manpower and tanks may have been replaced by others. The Soviet withdrawals from the GDR are sure to have had more to do with propaganda and military modernisation than with mutual balanced force reduction.

This is certainly the case where America's counter-offer, the withdrawal of 1,000 nuclear warheads from Europe, is concerned.

The aim of the Vienna talks is to reduce troop strength on both sides in Central Europe to 700,000 men each. This objective is hardly likely to be furthered by manoeuvres of this kind.

Serious difficulties also arise in connection with the data discussion. According to Nato figures the Warsaw Pact has 150,000 more men under arms in Central Europe than the Soviet Union is prepared to admit.

As long as there is no agreement on this point negotiations on another issue in which both Moscow and Bonn have shown interest are unlikely to make headway.

It is the proposition that no one country in Central Europe should account for more than 50 per cent of combined troop strength in its respective pact.

Sceptics warn that the Soviet Union would in this way gain a say in the Bundeswehr's manpower strength. Bonn sees the proposal as a means of ensuring the collective character of the Western alliance in Central Europe in future.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 25 July 1980)

■ EUROPE

410 Euro-MPs in search of a role as more than a talking shop

Strasbourg a year ago, on 17 July 1979, was the scene of a world premiere — the first session of the first 410-member European Assembly directly elected by voters in the nine Common Market countries.

That June more than 60 per cent of an EEC electorate 185 million strong felt the occasion was sufficiently important to warrent going to the polls.

How does the directly elected Europarliament rate after its first year in session? Opinions differ.

European Assembly Speaker Simone Veil of France told members on 8 July 1980 that "the tasks facing the Parliament were immense but have, to a large extent, been accomplished."

Others reckon the directly elected Assembly is an even larger and more useless talking shop than its predecessor, which consisted solely of 198 members delegated by the parliaments of the nine member-countries.

The European Assembly can certainly claim to be a hard worker. In 14 full sessions it conferred on 59 days and made 143 recommendations to member-governments.

It drafted 44 initiative reports. Its committees met 264 times and several public hearings were held. Few would care to swap their personal schedules for that of a Euro-MP.

Euro-MPs spend much of their time travelling, commuting by air, road and rail between their homes, respective capitals and the EEC venues Brussels, Strasbourg and Luxembourg.

What is more, there seems to be little likelihood of their EEC wanderings coming to an end.

The dispute over a single, permanent venue for full and committee sessions has intensified of late, what the completion, actual or imminent, of extension buildings.

In Luxembourg, for instance, a new assembly building has been built, while new offices are under construction in Strasbourg and new committee rooms in Brussels.

The Socialists, with 113 members, are the largest single group in the European Assembly. They, except for the French Socialists, favour Brussels as a permanent venue.

They have called on the governments of the Nine to come to a final decision by the end of 1980.

Then come the Christian Democrats, 107, Britain's Conservatives, 64, the Liberals, 40, and the Gaullists and their allies, with 22 seats.

Between them these four could form a centre-right majority if only they were to join forces. But regardless of party affiliations, Euro-MPs have shown admirable political commitment.

Before either the EEC or most member-countries reached decisions on the subject a majority of the 410 European assemblymen condemned the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and called for a withdrawal of all Soviet troops.

Majorities also endorsed EEC economic sanctions against Iran and a boycott of the Moscow Olympics.

In the course of several debates on human rights violations all over the world Euro-MPs made it clear they felt themselves qualified to speak out conscientiously on events outside Europe.

They have spoken out on behalf of the rights of oppressed and politically persecuted minorities, such as Indians and gipsies, all over the world.

As a result the European Assembly has been accused in some quarters of paying too much attention to too many issues beyond its EEC terms of reference and too little to matters of more immediate importance tp people in the Common Market.

True enough, Euro-MPs have failed to point the way to an overall EEC strategy for fighting unemployment and inflation. All they have managed to do, on several occasions, is to disagree on priorities.

But on this issue the governments of the Nine as represented in the Council of Ministers have proved equally unable to come up with an answer.

In cooperation with and disputes between the various European Community institutions the Assembly has notched up a number of points in its favour, however.

In mid-December 1979 a substantial majority of Euro-MPs chose to cross swords with the Council of Ministers, spectacularly voting against the 1980 EEC budget.

Must this vote be regarded as having been a highlight in the annals of the present Assembly? Six months or so later it endorsed the budget after all, even though the Council of Ministers had in no way satisfactorily met any of the four demands that led to its initial rejection.

The major demand was for a cutback in expenditure on Common Agricultural Policy and an end to pointless, costly bankrolling of surplus farm output.

At the end of May the nine Agriculture Ministers, subjected to French pressure in particular, put paid to any aspirations in this direction by agreeing on a five-per-cent increase in farm price guarantees.

The powerful farming lobby in the Europarliament then endorsed this move, which made the Assembly very much less credible.

Its most serious handicap is either a lack of power or too limited powers in the budget sector. The Council of Ministers continues to have the last word on statutory expenditure arising from the Treaty of Rome and existing Community legislation.

It includes, for instance, CAP expenditure that continues to account for a good 70 per cent of EEC spending.

The Assembly's say on other budget items is also limited. The only privilege it enjoys, if that is the right term, is the right to reject the EEC budget as a whole. This, then, is what it did, and rejection of the first 1980 Common Market budget estimates made an unmistakable mark. The European Assembly is in the process of gaining stature. But it will take time, and patience is called for, as British Tory Euro-MP Derek Prag is the first admit:

"No nation in the world, not even Great Britain, has ever been in a position to draw up a democratic constitution in the course of a single year."

One drawback was that the directly elected Europarliament first had to draft new standing orders, which took up much of its time in session during its first six months.

The dispute over the rights of minority representatives (members representing smaller parties in several EEC countries) has not yet been settled to everyone's satisfaction.

A further drawback has been [illegible] addiction of many Euro-MPs to [illegible] issues for consideration as a matter of urgency when the agenda is already [illegible] to overflowing.

On more than one occasion [illegible] course of a week's session has [illegible] upset by moves of this kind, resulting [illegible] debates being adjourned or postponed.

As yet 21 votes are all that is ne[illegible] to ensure the addition of an issue to [illegible] agenda as a matter of urgency.

So the European Assembly has la[illegible] self wide open to future challe[illegible] being a mere talking shop. There [illegible] seem to be an urgent need for stre[illegible] ning of the Europarliament as called [illegible] Berlin Christian Democrat Rudolf [illegible] of the Standing Orders Committee.

Euro-MPs certainly still have [illegible] do and will have to put in hard wo[illegible] they are to burnish an image that [illegible] none too bright in the eyes of pu[illegible] opinion in the Common Market.

Hans-Peter [illegible]

(Der Tagesspiegel, 17 July [illegible])

EEC stonewalls on terms for new members

The European Community is increasingly laying itself open to charges of delaying tactics on the EEC membership bids of Spain and Portugal.

Señor Calvo Sotello, Spain's Minister of European Affairs, has again tried in vain to negotiate assurances of swifter processing of his country's Common Market membership bid in Brussels.

In a painstakingly edited outline of its viewpoint the EEC has reiterated its willingness to submit as soon as possible outstanding proposals on agriculture and fisheries.

At the same time the Nine told Spain that important preliminaries needed to be carried out before proposals could be drafted.

The viewpoint reaffirms the prevailing view in Brussels that accession talks are unlikely to enter their crucial phase until after the French Presidential elections next spring.

France may not have included in the Brussels agenda the concept of a break in talks pending clarification of disputes within the Common Market on major aspects of future integration.

But Paris nonetheless sees a close link between accession problems and calls for a reform of EEC Common Agricultural Policy.

The EEC declaration submitted by Luxembourg Foreign Minister Gaston Thorn as chairman of the Council of Ministers included a provision on which France was particularly insistent.

It specified that further intensification might yet prove necessary on aspects of the talks that had already largely be[illegible] settled.

Paris is evidently keen to avoid cre[illegible] ing the impression that the outcome [illegible] the talks now only depends on a sett[illegible] ment of outstanding agricultural issues.

Señor Calvo Sotello criticised what [illegible] called imbalance in progress so [illegible] achieved in the various negotiation [illegible] ckages.

The comprehensive nature of the [illegible] would, he said, be seriously upset [illegible] problems still outstanding were not [illegible] with in the next few months.

Accession talks with Portugal are [illegible] centrated less on the balance of nego[illegible] tions so far than on the prospect of EEC financial aid to groom Portuguese industry for Common Market membership.

Agreement has yet to be reached [illegible] the Nine on the amount to be grant[illegible] in structural aid to Portugal. A sum [illegible] DM750m is currently under considera[illegible] tion.

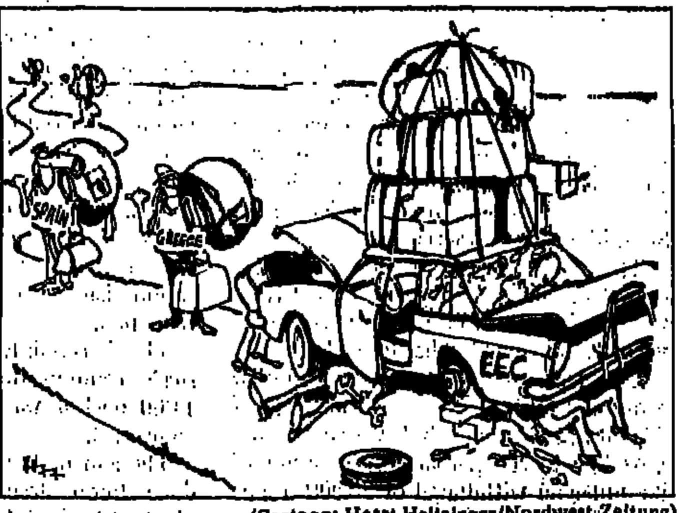
The European Community has take[illegible] a tough line in response to Greece's [illegible] position of import restrictions on a w[illegible] range of industrial goods.

In a letter to M. Kontogeorg[illegible] Greece's Minister of European Affa[illegible] the Nine voice grave alarm about [illegible] moves officially made on a volunt[illegible] basis.

Restrictions were incomprehensible [illegible] view of Greece's imminent accession [illegible] the EEC, it was noted. In Brussels [illegible] one yet knows whether Greece pla[illegible] lift the restrictions in time for its [illegible] coming membership deadline.

W. H[illegible]

(Die Welt, 23 July [illegible])



(Cartoon: Horst Haitzinger/Nordwest Zeitung)

The German Tribune

Publisher: Friedrich Reinecke. Editor-in-Chief: [illegible] Heinz. Editor: Alexander Anthony. English language sub-editor: Simon Burnett. — Distribution [illegible] Georgine Picone.

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH. 23 Schoene [illegible] Hamburg 76, Tel.: 22 85 1. Telex: 02-14733.

Advertising rates list No. 13. — Annual subscription DM 35.

Printed by Druck- und Verlagshaus Friedrich [illegible] Bremen-Blumenthal. Distributed in the USA by [illegible] MAILINGS, Inc, 540 West 24th Street, New York, [illegible] 10011.

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■ HOME AFFAIRS

CDU/CSU opens campaign fire in Bundesrat

The Bundesrat consists of the representatives of the *Land* governments and was conceived by the fathers of the constitution as a check and balance on the Bonn parliament, the Bundestag.

In practice, the Bundesrat often tends to represent more the interest of its own majority party than that of the *Länder* as such.

There is nothing surprising about this. Roman Herzog is now Interior Minister in Baden-Württemberg and a brilliant constitutional lawyer.

He once remarked that if the Bundesrat consisted of cats you could hardly be surprised at them chasing mice.

He was answering the familiar question how party-political the Bundesrat should be, given the frequent wish for the Bundesrat to be strictly neutral in the party-political sense.

Herzog's words clearly mean it would be fine if this were possible but, given the way the world is, the call for party-political abstention is a pipe dream.

And because this is the way things are Prime Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg of Schleswig-Holstein indulged in a rare outburst of temperament at the last Bundesrat session before the summer recess.

The subject on the agends was the flood of applications for political asylum in West Germany.

Up till this point Stoltenberg had stuck to the sober, argumentative tone with which we are familiar, talking of the problems these applications cause.

They include financial pressure on the *Länder*, the danger to integration of second-generation foreign workers and the Bonn government's reluctance to take adequate measures.

Then Herr Stoltenberg suddenly turned towards Secretary of State Andreas von Schoeler of the Bonn Interior Ministry. Schoeler, like other coalition spokesmen, had asked that this subject not be used as electoral ammunition.

Stoltenberg's tone changed to one of biting irony. He said this was a strange conception of democracy, especially coming from a progressive liberal.

He said the Bundesrat would not attempt to block the government Bill "so that no one will have an excuse." But the subject itself would of course be discussed in the election campaign.

There is no doubt that in its most recent sessions the Bundesrat has provided the mixture of tying up loose legislative ends and getting into strong positions for the election that has characterised politics since spring.

The last two sessions seemed more like the tying up of loose ends than anything else; including agendas crammed to busting full of familiar material from government and party pronouncements.

Then there were committee wrangles of recent years on the Noise Abatement Act, youth aid, the laws banning the advocacy of violence (88a), the law on state liability. All were introduced in the hope that they might finally be passed after all.

However, whispers behind the scenes about what was going to get through and what was to be blocked indicated there was a good deal of strategic and electorally-motivated skullduggery going on.

The small room in the side wing of the Bundestag building in which the Bundesrat meets is not a good place for major confrontations. Its muted white-gold decoration still exudes the 50s aura of stolid sobriety.

But it is primarily the constitutional structure of the Bundesrat rather than a mere room which makes confrontation difficult.

The Bundesrat can participate in legislation, it can delay or even block it. What it cannot do is to force through legislation on its own.

Another factor is that Ministers and secretaries of state who here represent their Länder as well as the subjects under discussion are so inextricably tied up with the exigencies of administration.

The state with its bureaucratic weight and permanent considerations of practicability cannot simply be overlooked.

The ship of state is a ponderous supply ship laden with all the practical problems of state activity. It cannot be made to scud along blithely like a party-political frigate.

The political landscape in West Germany as seen in the final pre-election rounds of the Bundesrat is different from the black-and-white descriptions of it given by the parties and basically only embroidered in endless statements and interviews.

Of course there is tension and even deep division between the parties. But there are also areas of compromise and possible agreement — not to mention the vast tracts of routine in which all parties seem equally grey.

The Bundesrat went into the home straight with a thunderous drum roll. The Bundesrat majority, which is CDU/CSU, simply refused to deal with three Bundestag Bills, counter to all previous parliamentary and political practice.



It was a reply to a challenge from Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who had accused the *Länder* of trying to "starve out" the Bonn government.

This seemed to prelude a confrontation which threatened to go far beyond mere tactical assistance in the debate on the government tax package.

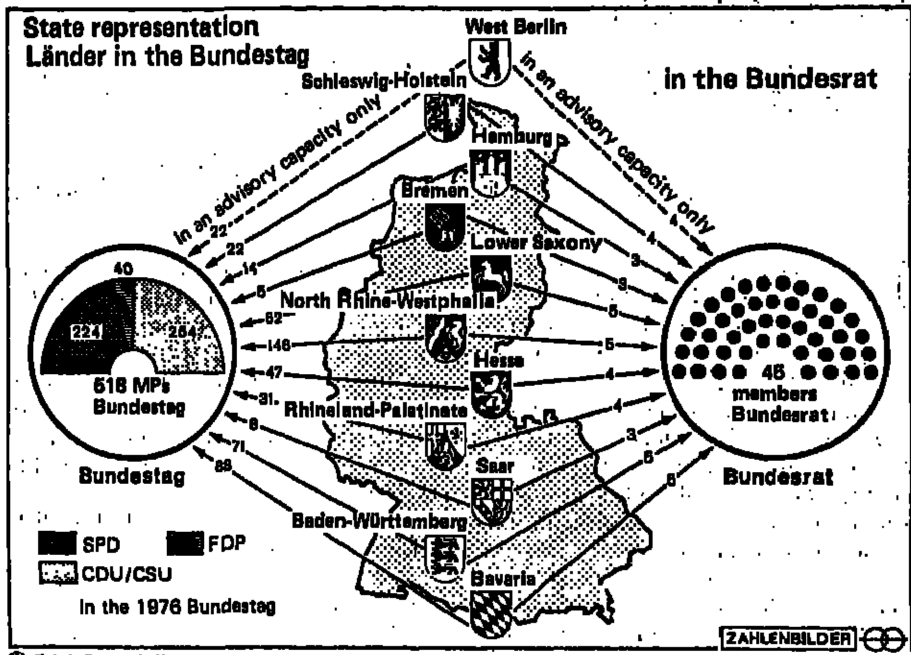
The whole affair turned out in the end to provide an example not of confrontation but of how to resolve conflicts.

Bonn and the *Länder* agreed to a compromise which delayed instead of solved the conflict about the distribution of tax revenue between them.

Schleswig-Holstein Prime Minister Stoltenberg made a point of calling this as "interim solution" and Bonn Finance Minister Hans Matthöfer conceded that the dispute was "not finished."

An unusual device has been worked out to ensure that the compromise really does remain provisional. If the Bonn government pays over the agreed amount it will receive compensation up to a maximum of DM1bn in 1981.

If no agreement is reached on the distribution of value-added tax this arrangement could become permanent. However as inflation eats at the value of this DM1bn, interest in a new round of negotiations is great.



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The purpose of this compromise is obvious: the subject of the tax package, a tangle of claims and interests which no party can fully capitalise on, is now dead for election campaign purposes.

All parties can now claim they are for tax reductions and increases in children's allowances.

The CDU/CSU in this operation has drawn attention to a subject which has always been close to its heart: the financial problems of the *Länder*.

Chancellor Schmidt has underlined the financial burdens the Bonn government has to bear.

And the CDU/CSU-ruled *Land* governments have pointed out that the *Länder* have their fair share of financial problems too, thank you very much.

Herr Stoltenberg has done an impressive calculation to underpin the *Länder* case: growth this year, according to the Finance Planning Council, will be four per cent.

Land expenditure will go up by 3.5 per cent, leaving only half a percentage point to play around with, and this with inflation at five to six per cent.

The aim of this argument is to present the CDU-CSU as a model of financial solidity.

However the prospects are so grim, by these calculations or those of the Bonn government, that no party is likely to profit from the situation. The best that can be hoped is that it will make a lot of people think very hard.

There were equally subtle gradations in intensity of conflicts on the 50 or so agenda items the Bundesrat had to deal with in its final sessions.

A lot is routine. It remains routine. It is passed without debate: matters such as the remuneration round or the MPs Act which allows MPs, if they are university professors, to continue to hold lectures in spite of their civil servant status.

Other subjects could have been made controversial, such as the change in lawyers' fees, the law on registration, the amendment on equal treatment for men and women at work.

On all these matters the Bundesrat's legal committee had its reservations but the plenary session decided not to make a meal of them and passed the laws.

Others matters were controversial and involved matters of party-political principle such as the regulations on the training of lawyers.

Here the Bundesrat accepted a compromise between the restrictive proposals of Bavaria and the progressive proposals of Bremen.

The CDU/CSU's motives for rejecting other Bills were partly party-political and partly to do with financial or legal reservations.

One such area was that of the improvement of the penal system which would have meant prisoners being included in the social security system and getting better pay for their work. The Opposition voted for this Bill in the Bundestag.

Another example was the further development of social welfare legislation. Here the reasons for referral to the arbitration committee were such a tangle of the financial and the legal that it was impossible to identify the political motives.

But there is a hard core of cases where the CDU/CSU's position is clearly party-political.

They are the law on hospital finance and social aid for artists, the possibility of release on parole for some life prisoners, the repeal of Para. 88, youth aid and the law on narcotics.

Wherever these laws needed Bundesrat approval, the Bundesrat referred them to the mediation committee or even rejected them; where Bundesrat approval was not required, it objected.

This forced the Bundestag to vote on them again at a session the date of which has not yet been fixed. If they get an absolute majority here, they will go on to the statute books.

The CDU/CSU regard all these laws as affecting essential elements of their political philosophy and so are prepared to risk being seen as a party which has blocked laws under discussion for a long time.

The Youth Aid Bill is a prime example of this. At the end of last year, all the experts, both government and Opposition, were determined to get this Bill through before the election, if necessary with the aid of the mediation committee.

Then the CDU/CSU's determination to improve its family policy profile became the rock on which it foundered.

Certainly the financial reasons for which the CDU/CSU initially refused to consider the Bill played a part.

But the decisive factor was the family-political "oblique position" of the law, its relation to parental law and the educational goals it pursued.

Baden-Württemberg Prime Minister Lothar Späth made this abundantly clear in the Bundesrat.

In the case of the hospital financing and artists' aid laws, the CDU/CSU's aim was to come across as advocates of anti-bureaucratic ideas. And with the law

Continued on page 4

■ PERSONALITIES

Nobel laureate Heinrich Böll wins libel appeal against TV commentator

Nobel laureate Heinrich Böll has won his Constitutional Court case against TV commentator Otto Freiherr von Sass, who works under the pseudonym Matthias Walden.

After the assassination in November 1974 of Berlin judge Günter von Drenckmann, Matthias Walden in a TV commentary accused Böll of having prepared the ground for violence. In doing so, he misquoted him.

An appeal ruling which upheld Walden's case has now been overruled by the Constitutional Court on the grounds that it violates the rights of the individual.

In his televised commentary, Walden had said: "The ground has been prepared for violence through the evil of sympathy with the terrorists.

"Highly reputed publishers have long been flooding the market with revolutionary books. Heinrich Böll has called our democratic state, against which this violence is directed, a rubbish heap.

"He said all he saw was the remnants of decaying power which were now being defended with dogged rage. He accused the state of persecuting the terrorists in a merciless hunt."

Herr Böll sued Walden, demanding DM100,000 in damages. He was only partially successful with his suit in a lower court. The Federal Court of Appeal upheld Walden's motion.

This court held that, though Böll had not been correctly quoted, he had to put up with his writings or verbal statements being quoted in a way the average reader would unterstand them.

In other words, if a quotation is changed in a manner that corresponds to the interpretation of an average reader, listener of viewer, it is legally deemed to be correct even if it has been falsified.

This ruling, which met with considerable criticism at the time, has now been upset by the Constitutional Court as being in violation of the Constitution.

The Constitutional Court justices said that no-one need put up with having statements attributed to him which he never made.

Though, the justices ruled, journalists enjoy a considerable freedom in their work, when attacking a person and quoting the person under attack to substantiate an allegation the quote must be correct.

If it is not, the reader or listener must clearly be told that the view expressed is the personal interpretation of the commentator.

A quote, the Court held, is a particularly keen weapon in the conflict of opinions because the person under attack is thus being made to testify agianst himself.

Walden, the justices said, had publicly denigrated Böll and badly besmirched his honour by saying he had prepared the ground for violence.

The case has been returned to the Court of Appeal for a ruling that will take these constitutional principles into account.

In the second ruling, the First Panel of the Constitutional Court dealt with the case of Baden-Württemberg SPD Chairman Erhard Eppler v. the CDU. The Court ruled against Eppler.

During the 1976 election campaign for the Baden-Württemberg state assembly the CDU circulated a "model speech" for its campaigners which stated, among other things, that SPD ideas were clearly socialist.

To substantiate this, the model speech went on: "The ultimate aim, as stated by Eppler and Steffen, is to test the breaking strength of bussiness."

Eppler held that this besmirched his honour, saying he had never made such a statement. He sued the CDU.

The lower court made an all-out effort to clarify whether Eppler had made such a statement or not. The testimony of witnesses was either conflicting or they said they could not remember.

Eppler lost the case and took the matter to the Constitutional Court, where he lost again.

The Constitutional Court justices held that there was nothing dishonourable in demanding that the breaking strength of business be tested and hence there was no defamation.

Even so, the justices held, Herr Eppler would have been entitled to damages had he been able to prove that he had never made such a statement. Nobody has the right to attribute to anyone else a statement he never made.

But he was unable to prove that he did not make the statement although it was reasonable enough to ask of him to do so.

The third ruling involved a legal dispute between two journalists and an artist.

During a public discussion in Frankfurt in 1974, a sculptor who is also a professor said in a lecture that the art critics among journalists no longer expressed their own opinions but that they wrote what they were told to write. They thus deceived the reader.

A woman journalist subsequently said on radio that the professor's statement resulted from the fact that he has remained unknown as an artist and that this rankled with him. His hate-filled tirades, she said, created a pogrom mood.

Another radio journalist told his listeners that the professor had proved himself to be "a dialectical garden gnome" in the discussion.

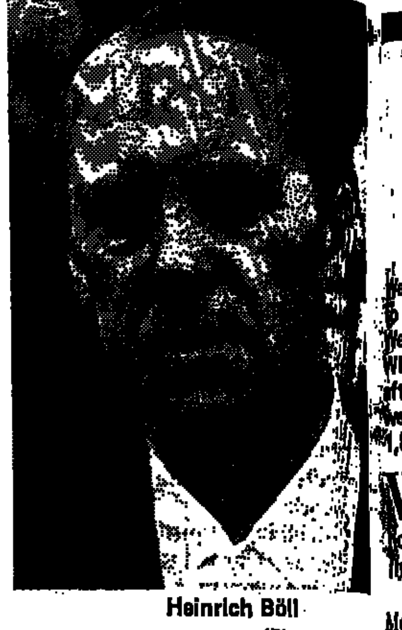
All the frustrated artist still needed to say, said the journalist, was that art was "Jewish-dominated."

The lower court ruled against the journalists and awarded the artist damages for defamation of character. This ruling has now been reversed by the Constitutional Court and referred to the lower court.

The journalists, the justices ruled, had only reacted to particularly sharp statements. They did not intend to defame the artist personally.

Anyone who publicly criticises another person or an occupational group must put up with polemical reaction. The constitutionally guaranteed freedom of opinion even permits small exaggerations in such cases. *Ulf Stuberger*

(Kieler Nachrichten, 19 July 1980)


Heinrich Böll (Photo: Sven Simon)

CDU/CSU

Continued from page 3

reforms its aim was to underline its position on law and order.

The CDU/CSU's approach on political asylum was unmistakable. True, the CDU/CSU-ruled *Länder* approved the Bill, but in the two-hour debate, the longest in the history of the Bundesrat, the Bonn government was clearly in the dock.

The CDU/CSU accused it of not realising in time the magnitude of the problem, of playing it down as it it began to emerge and finally of taking measures which simply could not cope.

Herr Späth was asked if he intended to make political asylum an election issue. "I don't need to," he said, "it already is one." *Hermann Rudolph*

(Die Zeit, 25 July 1980)

Shadow Chancellor Strauss rap[s] election campaign opponents

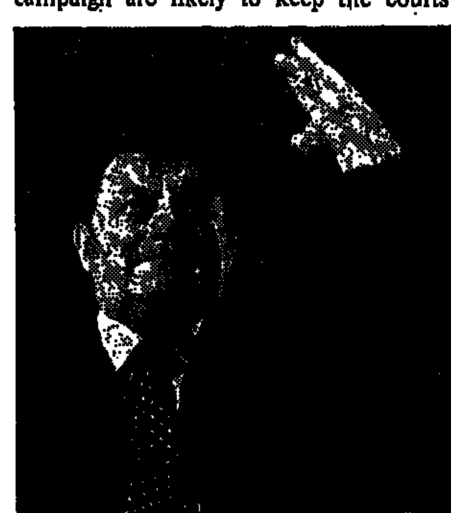
Nothing but rabble-rousing was how Franz Josef Strauss recently characterised the campaign against him.

The conservative Shadow Chancellor who — after a short truce — again seems to prefer the more rough and jarring campaign style now responds with increasing bitterness to attacks on him.

While the coalition parties, for psychological reasons, desist more and more from personally attacking Herr Strauss other groupings which are certain not to be represented in the new Bundestag act in exactly the opposite manner.

The campaign slogan Stop Strauss serves as a receptacle for a wide variety of groupings which have only one thing in common, to prevent the CSU leader from becoming the new Chancellor.

Certain aspects of the anti-Strauss campaign are likely to keep the courts busy even beyond the 5 October general election. They will have to weigh the personal rights of Strauss against the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of opinion.


Franz Josef Strauss (Photo: Sven Simon)

A Munich case involving a complaint against the labelling of Strauss as a "CSU rowdy" has been in progress for the past four years because of the difficulty in weighing these two rights.

A lower court has imposed a fine on the person who coined the label, a member of the German Communist Party who still hopes to win his case on appeal.

A Stuttgart bookstore owner who put a poster in his window saying Anyone Who Votes For Strauss Votes For Reaction, Fascism and War won his case.

A Bremen case involving a poster showed Strauss in a Nazi uniform ... ed by a blood-spattered butcher's ... and holding a meat cleaver in his ... with a caption reading What Speaks In Favour Of Strauss As Chancellor Is Th... He Knows His Business initially wen... the defendant but was overruled ... appeal.

A Nuremberg court recently uph... lower court ruling, as Strauss had ... it would. This case involved the u... ing of an injunction but here the w... ing of the two rights was not too d... cult.

A handbill that had been ... around by the youth organisation of ... Communist Party had labelled Strauss the Hitler of Today. The injunction ... prohibits any such or similar allegation under threat of a DM500,000 fine.

The court held that "individuals ... groups must put up with shocking, ... ful and unjust views and criticisms ... a candidate for the Chancellorship is ... turally the main butt of such attacks ... political opponents.

"But this is not an open invitation ... engage in unbridled defamation and p... lemics. A politician's honour must ... be protected though the criteria app... here differ from those applied to o... individuals.

"But in this case the honour of F... Josef Strauss has been so grossly b... mirched that his right of protec... outweighs the freedom of speech."

The court further held that a ... such as Hitler of Today was intol... in view of the crimes committed b... Führer.

Anybody likening a politician t... ler says by implication that such ... son will walk over dead bodies ... capable of any brutality.

Even granting that exaggera... permissible in political campa... goes too far. This ruling put ... the slogan Stop Strauss, Prevent ... 1933.

Interestingly, a slogan which ... Stuttgart court deemed permissible ... been banned in Nuremberg. It ... labelling of a political opponent ... tionary, fascist and an enemy of ...

The Nuremberg court held ... was the standard arsenal of M... ninist agitators and propagandists ... this case it was directed against ... fic person, which made it illegal.

Roman ...

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 22 ...)

■ DEFENCE

Bundesmarine is to redress Nato's naval balance

West German shipyards are now entitled to build all categories of warship, the Western European Union has ruled. The WEU Council lifted post-war restrictions after an application by Bonn. The limits were 3,000 tons for surface vessels and 1,800 tons for submarines.

With a full head of steam the paddle steamer corvette *Danzig* comes in on the North African coast, flying the Prussian ensign.

Its 68lb cannon bombard Tres Forcas, Morocco, and Prussian soldiers stand by for landing. The year is 1857.

Prince Adalbert of Prussia commanded this mission to punish Rif pirates, flexing for the first time the long arm of the new Prussian Navy.

It had just been reconstituted from the vestiges of the first Reich Navy, set up in 1848 and disbanded in 1852.

The Austrian Navy had now been joined by a Prussian counterpart on the seven seas, or at least some of them, but British and French naval pundits can have had no more than a premonition of what was to come.

Even so, the traditional maritime powers were worried upstart Prussia might now want to establish an ocean-going navy befitting a country that already boasted the largest and most powerful land army in Europe.

The problem with which Western naval pundits are currently concerned is altogether different. The West German Navy's operational area is to be extended.

A naval upstart much feared by the traditional maritime powers in Dreadnought days has now been requested to extend its operational area a second time to beyond the 61st parallel and into Arctic waters.

Originally the Bundesmarine, set up in 1955, was intended to operate in coastal waters only. Its mission was to defend the Baltic approaches.

Then, in the 60s, Nato ordered Bundesmarine units to patrol the North Sea.

The latest development, now the US Navy is being reinforced in the Indian Ocean, is that the Bundesmarine is to show the Nato flag in Arctic waters as a challenge to Soviet naval supremacy.

The call for German naval units to redress the balance is something new in European history. Until 1945 the German Navy was viewed with utmost scepticism.

The first Reich Navy of 1848 was a symbol of Germany's desire for unity. It was run by the Reich rather than any specific German ruler and it flew a black, red and gold ensign.

It was a defensive navy, designed to do no more than defend coastal waters, but was disbanded in 1852 because German rulers were not sufficiently interested to continue funding it.

Then came the Prussian Navy, followed by the purely defensive fleet of the North German Confederation, which lasted from 1867 to 1871. After the defeat of France in the Franco-Prussian War and the establishment of Bismarck's Reich in 1871 the Imperial Navy came into being. With Albrecht von Stosch as its first commander-in-chief it too was officially allotted a purely defensive role, but its vessels backed the German colonial drive in Africa and Asia in the 1880s. Kaiser Wilhelm II, who ascended the Imperial throne in 1888, was a keen advocate of German naval power. He promptly set about building up an oceangoing navy with powerful line squadrons.

He was ably seconded by his state secretary in the Reich Naval Office, later to become Grand-Admiral Alfred von Tirpitz, who made good use of four Navy Acts and a well-oiled propaganda machine.

His leitmotiv was the concept of the *Risikoflotte*, or risk navy, by which was meant a navy built up to serve as a deterrent to the British.

The British Empire, it was argued, based its claim to supremacy on naval superiority. This was to be challenged by a powerful Reichsmarine.

Tirpitz envisaged his navy as making Britain think twice before running the risk of an attack on Germany.

Germany built up the second-largest navy in the world. It was arguably the best. But it was unable to forestall the First World War and unable to win it despite the Battle of Jutland.

The Treaty of Versailles reduced the Weimar Republic's Reichsmarine to a fraction of its former size. Most of the German Navy was scuppered in Scapa Flow. The Reichsmarine covertly set about circumventing the restrictions imposed at Versailles. The small units it officially retained were trained to the hilt.

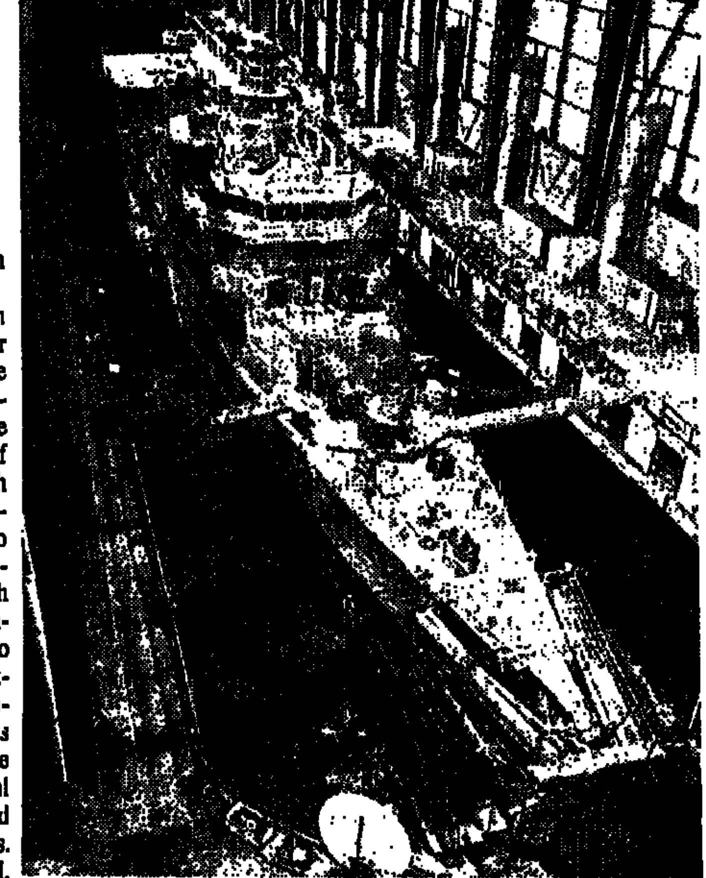
Unofficially a Fleet Air Arm was established. Officially forbidden to build warships of over 10,000 tons, it developed the pocket battleship concept.

These pocket battleships were in reality 12,000-tonners with a speed of 28 knots, which made them faster than conventional battleships.

What is more, they were equipped with guns so powerful that their firepower enabled them to make short shrift of enemy cruisers.

In 1935 the Nazis began expanding the Reichsmarine into the subsequent Kriegsmarine, They built the world's largest U-boat, fleet, four full-sized battle-

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Bundesmarine 122 class frigate under construction in Bremen (Photo: Bremer Vulkan)

Shipbuilding ban lifted

The Council of Ministers of the Western European Union (WEU) has lifted the tonnage limit on the construction of German warships in force since 1954.

The Bonn government's aim in applying to have the ban lifted was to stop discrimination against West German shipyards in the military sphere.

They can now accept orders from abroad just like their foreign competitors. They also have a free hand to go ahead with technological development.

The Economic Affairs Ministry says that given the problems of West German shipbuilding this does not mean a major step forward.

However, other Nato countries may now order warships from West German shipbuilders. There is also a good chance of orders from neutral countries, subject to approval of deliveries to certain regions.

Up to now the Bonn government has been relatively generous in this respect, as warships can hardly be used by authoritarian regimes to suppress democratic freedom movements.

The West German navy does not need larger warships. The Defence Ministry says that in the North and Baltic Seas the navy needs 500-ton submarines.

Its destroyers are 4,800-tonners, its frigates 3,600-tonners and the training ship *Deutschland* a 5,400-tonner, all built with special permission to exceed WEU limits.

The WEU was founded shortly after the end of the Second World War. Initially, former axis powers Germany and Italy were not admitted.

Chancellor Adenauer then offered to renounce the production of atomic, biological and chemical weapons, larger warships, strategic missiles and bombers.

He made this move to placate the resentment of Germany's former enemies, France in particular.

Dieter von König

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 23 July 1980)

EXPORTS

German industrial investors in Iran hope nationalisation will not be the last word

Only a year ago the revolutionary government in Tehran assuaged the fears of foreign investors, telling radical fundamentalists to keep a cool head:

"If we break our contracts now it will not be the foreigners but we who will suffer."

And, indeed, Iranians would be much harder hit than foreigners should the revolutionaries nationalise German and other foreign pharmaceutical companies in Iran.

Should this happen they would have to roll their own pills. German pharmaceutical manufacturers would lose all interest in Iranian involvement, the more so as Iran has never exactly been an El Dorado for them.

In fact, "conditions weren't all that rosy under the Shah either," says Wolfgang von Gropper of Boehringer Mannheim, who with Chemie Grünenthal and Rhone-Poulenc of Paris operate Tehran-Chemie AG.

The deposed Shah in his day imposed heavy restrictions on the foreign-owned pharmaceuticals industry in Iran, dictating profit margins.

Above all, he instructed it to import as little as possible in producing the pharmaceuticals the country needed. Said the Shah: "Asprir													in we can make ourselves."

This was easily said as long as the German parent companies looked after their Iranian subsidiaries. Iranians could rely on German know-how, especially since their Iranian subsidiaries remained unhampered by the restrictions.

Their motto then was the same as today and can be summed up in the words of Friedrich Gottschalk of Bayer Chemicals who said: "You don't easily give up a market, even if it doesn't produce any profit."

Parent companies can cope with losses by their subsidiaries, at least for a while.

Despite the Shah's autarchy drive, Iranian pharmaceutical firms were anything but independent of imports. Eighty-five per cent of raw materials were imported and the German companies that supplied the goods made a handsome profit.

The determination with which German companies in Iran hung on was worth while, even in post-revolutionary Iran.

One of the more curious aspects of the Islamic revolution is that it led to improved profits for German pharmaceutical companies in Iran.

Helmut Kathe of the West German Pharmaceutical Industry Federation even speaks of "enormously increased profits."

One of the more important German companies in Iran hiked its output in the first six months of this year against the same period in 1979 by as much as 70 per cent.

Boehringer Mannheim, for instance, increased its production in the first revolution year (1979) against the last Shah year (1978) by 10 per cent.

In the first half of this year, output rose by 30 per cent against the same period last year.

These production figures belie the reason given by the Iranians for their action against foreign pharmaceutical companies.

They alleged they had failed to keep up production, thus endangering the nation's supplies.

What might have happened is that the Iranian action has now actually caused a supply crisis.

Stockpiles of raw materials are still full but will be exhausted in two months unless more is imported. In fact, some companies only have two weeks' worth of stocks.

It remains to be seen whether German companies will cut off the supply. This will largely depend on developments. So far, the industry has hesitated to respond with counter-measures.

There is a good reason. Although German managers had to hand over their desks to Islamic commissioners a couple of weeks ago, no-one really knows what the Iranians are after.

Discussions that would have clarified the issue have been postponed time and again. And the Iranian authorities deny reports in the German press that the foreign companies have been expropriated.

Officially, Tehran only speaks of nationalisation. But Helmut Kathe says this is nothing but semantics since the net result is simply and plainly expropriation by whatever name it goes.

As things stand, says Herr Kathe, losses will be borne by the German owners and profits raked in by the Iranian government.

Not all have been treated this way. Bayer and Hoechst have not had their accounts blocked and their storerooms sealed, and while Boehringer's storerooms are accessible the bank account is frozen.

Some former German managers have been barred from their offices while others act as advisers.

Though nobody really knows what is going on it is clear to everybody that expropriation is permissible under Iranian law, as it is under German legislation.

In fact, this has been laid down in the German-Iranian agreement on the protection of investments.

But the agreement stipulates that expropriation is only permissible if it serves the community, and then only against compensation.

While the first stipulation is wide open to interpretation, the second is clear and to the point. The term expropriation has also been clarified in a rider to the agreement.

"Expropriation is the seizure of the invested capital or any restriction in its use through government measures and on a scale deemed tantamount to expropriation."

There can be no arguing the fact that the German companies have been restricted in the use of their capital. But German companies have never been quick to file lawsuits.

A wait-and-see attitude has paid off for German investors ever since 1952 when German capital and know-how started going abroad.

Investors weathered the socialist Allende period in Chile as they weathered the teething troubles of Portugal's young democracy.

The Bonn Finance Ministry provides guarantees to protect German in[illegible]ments in the Third World from poli[illegible] and economic risk.

But the volume of these guarante[illegible] much smaller than those for e[illegible] deals. While the overall export [illegible]rantees stood at DM112bn at the e[illegible] last year, investment guarantees amo[illegible]ed to DM3.5bn only.

Of the DM540m invested in Iran[illegible] one-third is guaranteed by the Fi[illegible] Ministry should things turn really so[illegible]

German pharmaceutical comp[illegible] now threatened by the Iranian mea[illegible] stand to lose about DM100m, of w[illegible] only a small portion is covered [illegible] capital investment guarantee.

But even those companies which [illegible] on safe enough ground and wante[illegible] save the insurance premiums th[illegible] which the state-operated insurance [illegible]pany has so far earned a packet wi[illegible] have to write off the whole of t[illegible] investment even if Iran actually c[illegible]sesses them.

They can claim compensation u[illegible] the German-Iranian agreement o[illegible] protection of investments; and the [illegible] government must support their c[illegible] against Iran.

But whether it will do so or not [illegible] question of political expediency. [illegible] might well be deterred by hopes [illegible] Iranian oil shipments will be resume[illegible] some later date.

Should Bonn decide to file a suit [illegible] all, this would have to be done in a[illegible]ternational court of arbitration unles[illegible] lateral negotiations between the [illegible] countries produced results.

But whether Iran would abide [illegible] court ruling is another question. [illegible] should a lawsuit prove unavailing [illegible] still remain other possibilities of o[illegible]ing compensation.

The companies concerned coul[illegible]tain a German court ruling to [illegible] Iranian assets in West Germany [illegible]

Continued on page 7

Free trade with Japan in jeopardy

Trade ties between the European Community and Japan have been strained for some time. The EEC's trade deficit with Tokyo rose dramatically in the first few months of this year.

Moreover, the Community has departed from its free trade principle and has imposed import quotas on 38 types of Japanese products.

To make matters worse, the Nine have been unable to agree on a common trade policy towards the economic giant of the Far East.

Most trade with Japan is regulated by bilateral agreements dating back to the 1950s and 1960s. But protectionism is by no means one-sided.

Tokyo has also erected barriers to protect its market from European goods, for instance certain agricultural products and leather goods.

Moreover, Japanese red tape is another import barrier. Notwithstanding the many EEC barriers, Japanese exports to the Community are rising continuously, however.

Japan achieved a $2.9bn surplus in its trade with the EEC in the first five months of this year alone.

The May surplus was up 33.6 per cent against the same month last year, while EEC exports to Japan rose only 3.2 per cent during the same time.

The Japanese export offensive encompasses the full range of goods except radios. The growth rates were 42 per cent for automobiles, 43 per cent for motorbikes, 28 per cent for TV sets and 71 per cent for tape recorders.

It is understandable in the light of this development that some particularly hard-hit EEC member-states and industries are clamouring for protectionist measures.

In June representatives of Europe's car makers pressed EEC Commissioner Etienne Davignon for protective measures in the form of quotas for the import of Japanese automobiles, as already practised by Italy.

But EEC Foreign Affairs Commissioner Wilhelm Haferkamp rightly said that closing the European markets to better and cheaper products was the wrong way to boost Europe's failing competitiveness on world markets.

The response to the Japanese challenge, he says, can only be to catch up with and learn from the Japanese as they once learned from us.

The EEC Commission has emphatically appealed to industrialists and exporters to pay more attention to the Japanese market.

In the long run, it cannot be enough to use Japanese trade restrictions as an excuse for lack of imagination and export efforts.

A comparison of the number of Japanese businessmen in Europe with that of European businessmen in Japan shows where the problem lies.

But the EEC Commission is not [illegible] blameless inasmuch as it took until [illegible] autumn to issue its first "programme [illegible] the promotion of better familiarity [illegible] the Japanese market."

Herr Haferkamp, who recently re[illegible]sented the Community at the funeral [illegible] Premier Ohira, used this opportunity [illegible] discuss EEC-Japanese trade problems.

He pointed to the disproportio[illegible] administrative trade barriers that ha[illegible] exports to Japan and to the danger[illegible]sulting from an excessively aggres[illegible] Japanese sales strategy on Europ[illegible] markets.

He begged his hosts' understa[illegible] for the fact that existing European [illegible]tas on Japanese products cannot b[illegible] moved from one day to the next be[illegible] some industries would find them[illegible] in dire straits if this were done.

The result of the talks [illegible] summed up by the EEC as no [illegible] but understanding shown by [illegible] Meanwhile, the Nine are trying to [illegible] at a common strategy towards Tokyo.

To start with this calls for a [illegible] of the various national restric[illegible] which is likely to take two to four [illegible] Yet the decision on easing strained [illegible]tions between Europe and Japan [illegible] be taken within the next few month[illegible]

The two will have to decide wh[illegible] they want to switch from [illegible] competition to competition ma[illegible] mutual understanding and coope[illegible] especially in the Third World.

Jan van Le[illegible]

(Vorwärts, 24 July [illegible])

ENERGY

Only a partial answer is blowing in the wind

Only 2.5 per cent of the solar energy that reaches the earth is converted [illegible]to kinetic energy in the form of wind. [illegible]is amounts to 38,380 billion kilowatt [illegible]urs a year, or very little by nature's [illegible]rdstick.

The solar energy used to evaporate [illegible]ter on earth amounts to an annual [illegible]5,420,000 billion kwh. The wind thus [illegible]ys a minor role in earth's energy [illegible]lance sheet.

The energy that keeps earth's atmos[illegible]here on the move fluctuates between [illegible]600 and 4,300 terawatts (billion kilo[illegible]watts).

This corresponds to the energy gener[illegible]ed by two million Biblis-type nuclear [illegible]wer stations. But this energy is [illegible]ributed over the whole globe to alti[illegible]tudes of up to 12 kilometres.

For practical reasons it is impossible [illegible] harness this wind to any great extent. [illegible] in any event this would hardly be [illegible]sirable for environmental reasons.

Wind is an exchange of air masses [illegible]tal to the industrialised world.

At present it would seem feasible to [illegible] three per cent of the global energy [illegible]ovided by air currents without causing [illegible]jor climatic changes. This would [illegible]mount to an energy loss of surface [illegible]winds of about 10 per cent.

Three per cent is tantamount to be[illegible]tween 75 and 125 terawatts. But since [illegible] effectiveness of today's wind power [illegible]stations is between 25 and 32 per cent [illegible]ower than that of nuclear power sta[illegible]tions, the potential of feasible wind-generated energy drops to 30 terawatts.

This is taken still lower because wind-operated power stations can only operate [illegible]bove a certain minimum wind speed.

The German wind power station Growian II will operate at wind speeds of [illegible]between 6 and 20 metres per second, [illegible]aching capacity at 11.3 metres per se[illegible]cond.

Should wind speed increase further, [illegible] pitch to the rotor blades can be ad[illegible]justed to keep revolutions and hence the [illegible]nerated power at a steady level.

The largest American wind-operated [illegible]power station near Boone, North Caroli[illegible]na, operates at wind speeds between 5 [illegible]nd 15 metres per second.

At Brocken in the Harz mountains, [illegible]wind speeds of this velocity occur during [illegible]7 per cent, on Borkum in the North Sea [illegible] 37 per cent, in Kiel and Berlin 25 per cent, in Frankfurt 19 and in Munich 11 per cent of the time.

Of the 8,760 hours in a year, wind-operated power stations would be generating electricity for 2,190 hours in Kiel and Berlin, 1,664 in Frankfurt and 964 in Munich.

In all likelihood only three of the technically imaginable 30 terawatts can actually be derived from the wind globally. Power stations would cover an area of 400,000 square kilometres, more than one-and-a-half times the area of the Federal Republic of Germany.

But the energy requirement is even more interesting than the area needed. In 1975, with a world population of four billion, it was 7.6 terawatt.

A comparison between the potential of wind-generated energy and global requirements in 1975 shows that wind cannot replace oil, coal and nuclear energy, nor can it meet global requirements.

This is the more so as global per capita consumption in 1975 was only 1,900 watts — about 25 per cent of central European consumption today.

But since the world population has risen and continues to rise and since the poor nations must be enabled to consume more electricity, requirements are rising at a considerable rate.

In his book *Müssen wir umschalten?* (Must we switch over?) physicist Klaus Traube considers a global per capita consumption of 3,000 watts tolerable.

Though this is little more than one-third of today's requirements in Central Europe, given a world population of nine billion this would amount to 27 terawatts and for a maximum population of 23 billion, as assumed by the UN, to 36 terawatts.

The possible 3 terawatts of wind-generated electricity would thus barely meet 11 per cent of overall requirements.

Should future cars be electric it becomes obvious that wind-generated electricity could replace only a small fraction of today's conventional power stations.

Even so, it would make sense to make such a switch-over in certain regions. Three terawatts of wind-generated electricity can only be achieved with so-called hard technology.

If wind-generated energy were to be utilised on a decentralised basis with soft technology, its effectiveness would drop because small stations could hardly operate at technically significant altitudes above 100 or 200 metres. At lower altitudes wind is deflected by buildings, trees, etc.

Since the decentralised solution would also make a regional or supra-regional energy exchange impossible, there would be a call for high-capacity storage batteries to provide a secure supply in calm and storm, both of which would make it impossible for plant to operate.

According to present estimates, the potential of soft technology would hardly exceed one terawatt, and wind-generated electricity is not cheap, even if hard technology is used.

This is because while there is always wind somewhere in the world, it blows only for some of the time in any given area.

Berlin or Kiel, for instance, would need four times the installed capacity of wind power stations. Frankfurt would need fivefold capacity and Munich about nine.

Hamburg, favourably located, would have to cover its entire area with wind power stations to meet requirements and it is more than doubtful whether environmentalists would put up with this.

New studies on the cost of electricity generated by major wind-operated power stations base their figures on the assumption of 3,300 hours of adequate wind a year, or 38 per cent.

This can only be achieved in very few places in the country, and even assuming this favourable figure, generating costs would be between 18 and 19.5 pfennigs per kwh.

Coal-generated electricity will cost 18 pfennigs per kwh in 1985. This cost would fall if generating capacities were fully utilised.

It is generally assumed that construction and operating costs of wind power stations can be reduced from DM5,740 to DM4,800 per kilowatt given assembly-line production.

The German Growian I station with its 3,000 kw installed output cost DM10,000 per kilowatt and is thus totally uncompetitive.

Since wind-operated power stations cannot guarantee a secure electricity supply, standby stations would have to be built, and their cost would have to be added to the generating cost of the wind stations.

Assuming standby stations to be coal-operated, generating costs of wind-operated stations would be between 24 and 24.6 pfennigs per kwh.

Small wind-operated stations are also likely to generate at 19.5 pfennigs. But since this figure is based on inadequate data it could well be somewhat too optimistic.

Where soft technology is concerned there is also the considerable cost of storage batteries which are more expensive than the generating plant itself.



Scale model of Growian wind generator (Photo: dpa)

Batteries used to make up the shortfall resulting from a 10-hour calm add to the cost at the rate of 50 pfennigs per kwh. As a result, total kwh costs would be 69.5 pfennigs, six times the cost of coal and nuclear power.

But ten hours of calm is a low figure and applies only to coastal areas where the average is between 7 and 10 hours. Inland a calm can last between 16 and 30 hours, requiring more stored energy and thus adding to the generating cost.

The commercial feasibility of wind energy is therefore anything but rosy. It could only come into wide use given government subsidies — hardly an ideal solution considering that the taxpayer would have to foot the bill.

Let us assume that we actually make use of the 30,000 suitable square kilometres in West Germany (12 per cent of total surface area). In that case we could expect to generate an annual 42bn kwh.

Another 9bn kwh a year would be generated if the nation's 914,000 farms were to derive their energy from small wind-operated generators and the batteries to go with them.

While these 9bn kwh are the projected agricultural requirements in the year 2030, households in one- and two-family homes will require 44bn kwh.

Another 29bn will be needed by those living in larger complexes. These requirements cannot be met by wind-generated electricity.

Apart from financial considerations there is also the fact that these wind-operated generators make considerable and very unpleasant noise.

Though the rotors of large generators turn relatively slowly, they are so long that their tips reach high speeds: 230 mph at the American 2,000-kw station in Boone, NC, and 285 mph at the German 5,000-kw Growian II.

The US wind power station cannot generate electricity outside normal working hours because noise is such that thousands of people complained their crockery rattled when it was in operation even though they lived miles away.

Efforts to eliminate the noise have failed. In fact, there is some doubt whether this is technically possible.

This means that citizens' initiatives could effectively stop the construction of such stations by invoking the Noise Abatement Act. This considerably restricts the practical potential of wind-generated power.

Walter Baier

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 19 July 1980)

Continued from page 6

[illegible]uld be one court order that could be [illegible]enforced.

Iran has invested DM1.4bn in Ger[illegible]man companies, primarily Krupp and [illegible]eutsche Babcock. This by far exceeds [illegible]German investments in that country.

But whether this is the true market [illegible]lue of the Iranian investment and [illegible]whether it can be turned into cash is [illegible]nybody's guess.

Since expropriation of German assets [illegible] Iran would not only violate the Ger[illegible]man-Iranian agreement but also interna[illegible]tional law, Bonn could freeze Iranian [illegible]ets in Germany, using this as a pawn [illegible] make Iran more amenable.

But all this is hypothetical for the [illegible]ent. German companies hit by Irani[illegible] moves still hope times may change.

Wolfgang Hoffmann

(Die Zeit, 18 July 1980)

Bundesmarine

Continued from page 5

ships and an aircraft carrier that was never completed.

In the Second World War the Kriegsmarine, which in no way compared with the German Navy at the outbreak of World War I, was sent to its ruin by the Third Reich.

The Bundesmarine, set up in 1955, voluntarily limited its role to the mission accepted by the Bonn Bundestag. It has always been the smallest of the three services in the Bundeswehr, but it has steadily gained in importance.

The latest plans to extend its operational area to Arctic waters are fully endorsed by Germany's Nato allies.

There are no plans to reinforce the Bundesmarine at present, the Defence Ministry says. But the number of 122 Class frigates to be built may possibly be increased from six to eight.

"But a decision on this issue will not be necessary until 1982 at the earliest," says Defence Minister Hans Apel.

"We form part of an alliance alongside the major maritime powers," says Captain Kurt Fischer, Bundeswehr spokesman, "Our current role is unique in history."

Martin S. Lambeck

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 16 July 1980)

TECHNOLOGY

Computers start to listen as well as talk

Dial Frankfurt 7 54 32 but don't ask for Karlchen. He will answer no matter when you ring. He is a Bundesbank talking computer with all you need to know about how to get to more than 300 destinations by rail.

Indeed don't ask Karlchen. *He* will ask *you* where you want to go and then tell you what number to dial for the information required.

Come to think of it, his name may be Karlchen but the voice the computer uses is that of a Helmut — Helmut Mangold, head of AEG-Telefunken systems development in Ulm, Bavaria.

Words spoken by Mangold are stored digitally on a magnetic disc. The computer retrieves the ones it needs. The telephone from which the call is made functions as terminal, so the information has to be relayed acoustically.

Of late several major computer manufacturers, including AEG-Telefunken, Siemens and IBM, have launched computers that can not only speak but also hear what they are told.

Texas Instruments have applied for patents for what the company claims is the first-ever integrated microcircuit that is a complete electronic imitation of the human speech organs.

Philips have introduced a computer that can recognise people by their voices and only grants those for whom it has been given the go-ahead access.

The inventor of this particular system has since left Philips and is working on methods of speech identification for the Bundeskriminalamt, or Federal CID, in Wiesbaden.

AEG-Telefunken have a computer system at the ready for use by quality control engineers who need only to speak their findings to a microphone; the computer minutes and stores them.

The idea behind all these innovations is to make computers easier to use. No special training should be needed to handle them.

Programming systems development at IBM is a step in the same direction, with the computer guiding operators in devising new programmes.

The aim of such bids is computer systems on a black box basis that do what the user wants without him needing to know what is going on inside the device.

Message services such as Karlchen's can make do with a relatively small vocabulary and rely on texts that are mostly similar and constantly recur.

Digital storage of words or parts of words is well suited in such cases, although substantial storage space is needed, says 50 to 60 kilobits per second of codified speech.

Other processes are needed to carry out more comprehensive tasks, such as translation of any given text into another language.

These other processes are based on the physiological procedure of speech. Individual words or sentences are no longer stored for reproduction when the need arises; control signals for electronic speech are given instead.

Speech entails impulse-like air gusts in the vocal chords that are fashioned into the speech signal proper as they make their way through throat, nose and mouth.

The electronic mock-up fashions electrical impulses in an impulse generator that are converted into speech signals by a controlled digital filter.

That, in principle, is how the speech synthesiser works. It is a complex form of speech reproduction that entails three-stage signal processing.

At the linguistic, phonetical stage a written text is converted into a phonetical discription corresponding to what the human being needs to read the text naturally and comprehensibly.

At the next stage of processing the phonetical text is converted into control signals for the speech synthesiser, while at the third and final stage the speech synthesiser is used to transform the control signal sequence into comprehensible speech signals.

Reasonable working models of speech synthesisers already exist. The only difficulty is the drafting of a system of rules for converting written texts into phonetical form.

In German, as in French, Spanish and many other languages, the spelling corresponds fairly accurately to how words are actually spoken.

But work is rendered arduous and difficult by words that sound identical or similar but are written differently or by combinations of letters that can be pronounced in different ways.

The diphtong "ai" (pronounced "eye") can, for instance, in German be spelt ai, ei, ay or ey, whereas the letters "sch" (normally thought of as being pronounced "shh") are pronounced differently in the words täuschen, Häuschen and Werkschor respectively.

What is more, there are difficulties in correctly controlling speech rhythm, intonation and word melody.

Subdivision of words into roots, prefixes and suffixes is somewhat less problematic. In täuschen the root täusch is clearly distinguished.

Haus is less obviously the root of Häuschen, but chen is known to be a diminutive syllable, while the root vowel is known to umlaut (in this case from au to äu) wherever possible.

With the aid of speech rules such as these an efficient microprocessor can work out without delay the control signals required for the speech synthesiser.

As a result computers are enabled to relay texts of all kinds acoustically, there being a variety of technical solutions to problems of "listening" just as there is to problems of "speaking."

(Cartoon: Langer/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

They extend from simple classification of individually spoken words to recognition of continuous speech.

Difficulties are presented by the various peculiarities of individual voices and speech patterns, not to mention the possible background noise.

The only technique that is truly feasible as yet entails recognition of individual words of command spoken by a specific speaker.

The speaker has to have spoken the individual command words to the computer for memorisation. In this way computers can at present clearly distinguish about 50 words.

Where larger vocabularies are concerned the words have to be chosen carefully to ensure reasonable certainty of recognition by the computer.

Since speech recognition systems must be able to "understand" different speakers and vocabularies (and not just a single speaker and a specific vocabulary) they must first be familiarised with both.

So they must invariably be adapted to individual requirements if they are to classify and distinguish what is required of them.

An extra difficulty is that a single speaker's voice can change so much in a matter of days that readjustment proves necessary. But there appears to be a solution to this particular teaser.

Herr Mangold says AEG-Telefunken have systems capable of automatic and continuous readjustment.

Computers can already be taught to distinguish individually spoken command words, taken in isolation, with a degree of accuracy that is frequently superior to that of human beings.

But they are still much inferior to the human ear in distinguishing continuous speech. On this point research is still in its early days.

In a complete spoken exchange with a computer the dialogue is simplified somewhat by the need to abide by certain rules of the game necessitated by the computer's fairly rigid programme structure.

So it is advisable to allow the computer to control the conversation and guide the user towards his target in a manner comparable with the Bundespost's viewdata question and answer arrangement.

But a spoken exchange with the computer holds forth extremely exciting prospects of improved cross-questioning and queries.

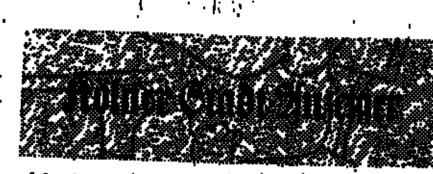
Yet it will be some time before the final objective, a completely free dialogue with the computer, is achieved.

Walter Baier

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 23 July 1980)

■ THE ARTS

Images of Mankind in West Berlin



The New National Gallery in Berlin is now holding an exhibition of portraits and busts entitled Images of Mankind in Western Art.

Fourteen Western countries, mainly France and Italy, have loaned 196 works for the exhibition. The rest come from the collections of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation.

The exhibition is being held to mark the foundation 150 years ago, on 3 August 1830 of the Altes Museum on the Spree island in Berlin near the Royal Palace.

Behind this building, designed by Carl Friedrich Schinkel, the Neues Museum was built between 1843 and 1855.

In 1867 work began on the National Gallery, built in the style of a Greek temple. It was designed by August Stüler, a pupil of Schinkel. The famous island of museums came into being.

From 1965 to 1968 Ludwig Mies van der Rohe built the New National Gallery on the south side of the Tiergarten. And now the museums in the Tiergarten, designed by Rolf Gutbrod, are being built.

A century and a half ago their "spiritual father" Wilhelm von Humboldt described their purpose thus: "The encouragement of art, the dissemination of taste and the preservation of the enjoyment of art."

Today's museum builders go several steps further than Humboldt, saying that the purpose of the museums is to provide "an evaluation of these cultural possessions in the interests of the general public, science and scholarship and of cultural exchange between nations."

The huge sesquicentenary exhibition at the New National Gallery therefore has very high standards to live up to.

But Stephan Waetzold, director of West Berlin museums, readily admits that not even such a major exhibition as this can come anywhere near to exhausting the subject.

Indeed, far from being exhaustive, the pictures were intended to pose questions about art and about the history of portraiture.

It is self-evident that in the past portraiture concentrated on presenting images of the well-to-do classes. The work on display here ranges from individual portraits to group and family portraits, images of classes and rulers.

Finally, existential situations are also depicted — love, death, social reality, and utopia, repression and resistance. The exhibition is divided into nine sections.

The first section ist devoted to classical art and entitled: Individual and Ideal. The images of Pericles and of Aristotle illustrate two diametrically opposed conceptions of representation in antiquity.

The Periclean image is the examplary embodiment of male maturity, beauty and dignity; the image of Aristotle from the late 4th century BC is that of an individual and here it is the distinguishing characteristics of that individual which count.

There was a strong emphasis on individualism in republican Rome which was then displaced by the ideal of timelessness under the emperors, as the busts of Augustus prove.

Then comes a section on Images between Antiquity and the Middle Ages — from the 4th to the 6th century. Here the portraits are comparatively uniform and stereotyped: the god-emperor becomes the emperor by the grace of God.

It is noteworthy that many of the subjects are looking heavenwards. Perhaps the most striking example of this is the roundish head of the empress Ariadne (491 to 515) — a loan from Rome.

Without the help of Cologne museums the section on Portraits in the Middle Ages would have been small indeed.

Here we see portraits of rulers, portraits of the dead and of founders, including the priceless bronze statuettes of Philip the Good and Margaret of Sicily (about 1476), four masters of the Cologne Cathedral building team (about 1445), madonnas, pictures of the taking down from the cross, grave designs.

In the Middle Ages individuals could only usually be portrayed when they had a certain function in God's plan of salvation.

It is not until the 15th century and the portraits of great patrons of the arts that the renaissance of the autonomous portrait occurs. Here the individual insists on his rights, freeing himself from religious conditions. Reynolds' portrait of Warren Hastings and Laneuville's portrait of the parvenu Barrère de Vieuzac show attitudes of power between 1760 and 1790. Double portraits of husbands and wives take up considerable space at the exhibition: Rembrandt's narrative portrait of the Mennonite preacher Anslo and his wife (1641) and Manet's In the Winter Garden of 1879: grand bourgeois elegance instead of God-trusting inwardness.

Another highlight of the exhibition is the section on The Image of the Ruler and the State Portrait, ranging from the portrait of the absolutist Medici Duke Cosimo I (1545) to probably the most brilliant baroque painting of a ruler, Rigaud's portrait of Louis XV in full regalia.

Then comes a large section consisting solely of portraits on The Life of the Classes. Then comes a section on Repression, Resistance, Utopia: subjects which have only become worthy of portrayal in the past 150 years.

Here we find works by Turner, Daumier, Rodin, Callot, Goya and Dix, Kollwitz, Beckmann, Grosz, Picasso and Siquero.

The Images of Death are preceded by a few Metaphors of Sensuality: Caravaggio's Love the Victor (1602), as ambivalent as it is deep, Courbet's Sleep (1866) and finally Ipousteguy's Femme au Bain (1966), then woman as a mere object of desire in the work of Bellmer or Lindner.

Then the section on Images of Death: Paul Cézanne's death's heads as symbols of transitoriness, Lehmbrück's Der Gestürzte, Holder's harrowing series on the Death of Valentine Godé-Darel (1913 to 1915).

The last work in the exhibition is Arnulf Rainer's Death Masks (1918).

Life and death, greatness and decline over two millenia: tracing the gradual emancipation of art and artists from the ties of dogma and the requirements of those buying the paintings. East Berlin is celebrating the anniversary in the National Gallery on the museum island in equally impressive style with an exhibition of the work of the great Berlin painter Adolf Menzel. Unfortunately there is no catalogue to go with this exhibition — a frequent occurrence at East Berlin exhibitions, which are notorious for their lack of satisfactory and adequately illustrated catalogues.

Werner Strodthoff
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 19 July 1980)

Arnold Böcklin's Island of the Dead, 1883, oils on wood, third of five variations on the subject by the painter, thought until recently to have been lost. (Photo: Catalogue)



Otto Dix: *Die Barrikade*, 1920

Foreign fare in Stuttgart

Asked to find a word to describe th… event, organiser Hermann Pollig … clearly struggling. We all know what… concert is. The same goes for opera… festival, exhibition and get-together.

But it is not easy to find one w… which satisfactorily defines the event th… Institute of Foreign Relations, a pub… body, has been holding in Stuttgart.

Pollig, director of the event, s… they are calling it a happening, joint… action, show or fete.

At any rate it was unique in the h… tory of West Germany, whatever it was. It was held in the former city orphanage which is now the site of a café and a pub, ministerial offices and the Institute of Foreign Relations.

But the building with its enclosed inner courtyard is still known as the Orphanage.

And it was here in this inner court… yard, in a tent, that the attempt to de… scribe the influence of foreign culture on our lives was made.

"We are no advocates of things for… eign or condemners of foreign customs," says Pollig. "All we want to do is draw people's attention to what is going on around them." Register, be aware of what has become part of our culture.

Take for example hamburgers, ho… dogs, pizzas and cevapcici. Young men and women stood at a grill preparing these foods. Demand was so great that they were often cooking until late in… the night.

The registering of disco, pop … country music and of raki and … had no didactic purpose behind … as helping eliminate prejudices … foreign workers.

The programme director said at the beginning that the exhibition might in… deed have this effect, but this was not the intention behind it.

The whole thing was cleverly and ef… fectively laid out and planned. It began with a whole week in which our every… day culture was looked at, from instant coffee to rock music on the radio.

Who in Germany thinks of the word disc jockey as foreign, or realises that … and musical are not German words?

The 84th US Army band … music and the public sure felt at home.

Then the event slowly and tentatively turned its attention to relations with …

Continued on page 11

ARCHAEOLOGY

Baltic dig near Schleswig unearths Viking port

… 250 years Hedeby, also called …thabu, was the Vikings' most …portant Baltic port and trading centre. …am of archaeologists and scientists is …w busy digging up the remains of this … in today's Schleswig-Holstein.

…eafarers and warriors, pirates and … slavetraders meet in this great city …the verge of the sea of the world. … skulls of cattle hang outside their …ts.

Most are heathens who light fires and …ke sacrifices to their gods. The Chris…n community is very small. The peo…e's diet is hardy, consisting of fish, …oked ham and beer.

The poor people who cannot feed their children throw them into the sea. The harbour is an evil place with much noise, drinking and fighting.

This was how the Moorish trader Al Tartushi saw Hedeby in 950 AD. It is hard to say how much of his description is fiction and how much fact. Still, a great deal is likely to have been fact.

For some 300 years the people of Hedeby, Vikings, ruled all coasts of the continent, leaving a bloody wake behind their flat-bottomed warships with the dragon's head prows.

Their conquests and charting expeditions extended from Greenland to Sicily and from the Black Sea to Ireland and North America. No corner of Europe was spared.

Navigating the major rivers, they penetrated deep into the heartland of Europe, attacking and plundering more than 60 cities.

In 836 they pillaged Antwerp; in 845 they burnt down Paris and Hamburg and in 881 they plundered and destroyed Cologne, Aachen, Xanten, Neuss, Jülich, Liege and Maastricht. Throughout the Frankish empire prayers were offered for deliverance from the Norsemen.

Their most important port and stronghold in Northern Europe was a settlement along the shores of the Schlei inlet, a 40-kilometre waterway in today's Schleswig-Holstein. The stronghold was called Hedeby, which means settlement in the heath.

The hinterland was an almost totally unpopulated wilderness consisting of heath, marshes and dense forests. There was only an old North-South road leading to Jutland. But this was not much more than a track, easily controlled from Hedeby.

The oldest wooden buildings of Hedeby probably date back to the year 783. This has been established by dating the bark of the wood used in their construction.

Danish Vikings under King Godfrey occupied the south bank of the Schlei inlet in the year 808. They fortified the harbour in the moor with a semicircular wall against any landward assault. The seaward side was secured by a row of pilings.

As an additional defence measure, the king erected a system of walls and trenches between the rivers Treene and Schlei which effectively blocked the 35-kilometre wide isthmus separating the North Sea and the Baltic.

These walls, known as *Danewirk*, have a total length of about 15 kilometres and are 5 to 7 metres high. They were to protect the Vikings against the onslaught of Charlemagne.

This was initially the only visible indication of a Viking settlement the archaeologists had. Not until 1896 did a Danish historian suspect that the semicircular wall had been intended as protection for the port of Hedeby.

The first archaeological exploration began in 1900, initiating intensive research which eventually developed into the most important and productive dig in Northern Europe.

The present Hedeby team consists of 30 archaeologists, wood biologists, geophysicists, geochemists and technicians. Some of the research work is also done by scientists from Denmark, Poland and Britain. The team is headed by Kurt Schietzel of the Schleswig State Museum.

Last year saw the successful conclusion of the salvage of a Viking ship, the only such project in German waters. Previously, complete Viking ships had been salvaged only in Denmark and Norway.

The Hedeby ship was surrounded by a special wall and the water pumped out. The wall encompassed an area of 25 by 10 metres.

The ship, which lay two to three metres below the surface, buried under deep layers of mud, is about 18 metres long and is assumed to have sunk around the middle of the 11th century.

The wooden components of the wreck are now being kept submerged in the Schleswig Museum until actual conservaton work can begin.

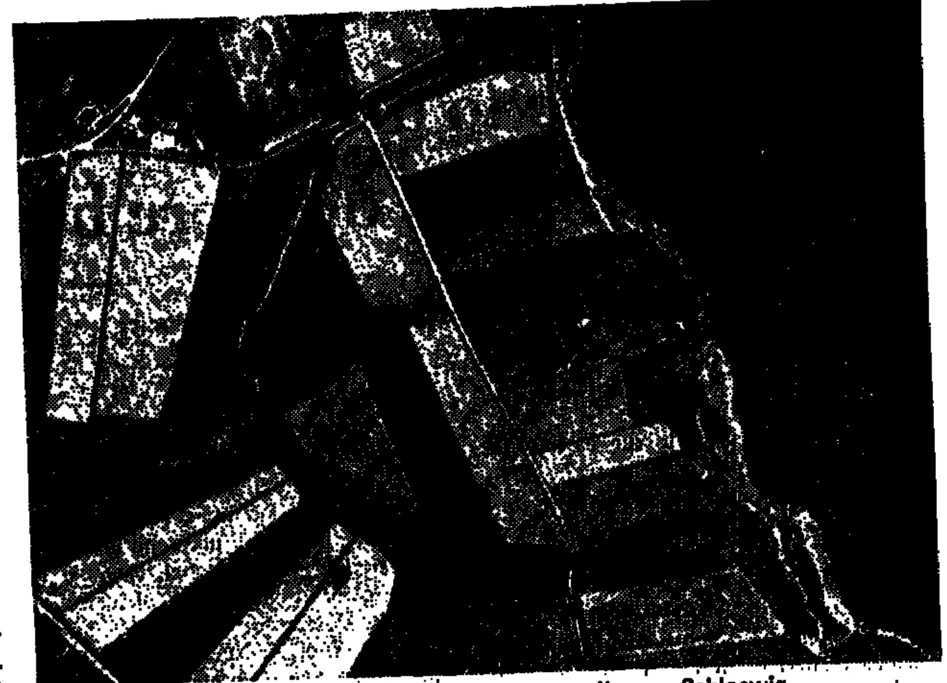
Special echo-sounding equipment developed by Kiel geophysicists has enabled the archaeologists to track down further remains of wooden structures.

They found the remains of four wooden piers extending 40 metres into the water. They also found a row of wooden pilings marking the actual harbour area, which is about three times as large as originally assumed.

The immediate vicinity of the piers has turned into an archaeological treasure trove.

For some 250 years the port was a major shipping and trading centre for goods from all parts of Europe. And in times of war all fighting and looting took place in the harbour area.

Moreover, the harbour was used as a garbage dump, not to mention the fact that goods went overboard accidentally in the process of loading and unloading, sinking deep into the mud. Attempts by divers to salvage some of these objects failed.



Aerial view of Haithabu, the Viking port dig near Schleswig.
(Photo: Landesmuseum für Vor- und Frühgeschichte, Schleswig-Holstein, freigeg. Nr. SH 651-96)

It was not until the water was pumped out, which was made possible by the encasement, that these finds became accessible.

There are swords and axes, bars of lead and bronze, the remains of planks, shards, bones and needles, leather goods, the remains of clothing, buttons, fruit pips, tar and rags — a cross-section of the garbage produced by the Viking civilisation.

These finds are augmented by skulls and human skeleton parts, frequently showing signs of violence.

There is so much material in such an excellent state of preservation that it will take the archaeologists 10 to 15 years to sift and evaluate it.

The geographical position of Hedeby between Central, Northern and Eastern Europe made it one of the Vikings' most important trading centres — a cosmopolitan market place.

Merchants from Scandinavia and England, from the Baltic, the Ukraine and Arab countries, from Spain and the Rhineland met here to do business.

Among the most important finds apart from the port is the graveyard on the edge of the settlement with more than 5,000 burial places. Apart from the heathen death cult there is also evidence of Christian burials.

Hedeby was besieged, attacked and conquered at least five times during its relatively short history. The life expectancy of the citizenry was barely 40 years.

In 1050 Norwegian King Harald III Hardraade raided the port and burnt it down. The end came in a Wendish raid in 1066 when the city was razed and disappeared in the marshes around the Schlei.

Willy Lützenkirchen
(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 18 July 1980)

Continued from page 10

France, Greece, Italy, Latin America and Turkey. Were the consulates consulted?

No, says Pollig. That would have been too official. The countries would then have served up the official culture which they always have in store for such occasions.

What people wanted was spontaneity and the chance of joining in. As when a Stuttgart painter turned up and persuaded his friend Luis to go on stage and sing Sicilian music. This was "wonderful, a great experience for all as well as for sundry."

Another example: during the rock for all event the compere picked out a young man from the crowd and asked him to step up and do the compering. "He was much better and the whole thing then became a lot livelier."

The event was not an unqualified success, though, and Hermann Pollig admits there were a few flops. This is excusable considering there were 230 items. Once the wine ran out and a Greek choir got stuck in a motorway traffic jam.

"But this does not invalidate the whole event, the mixture of show and fun with a sprinkling of critical interrogation."

The Institute of Foreign Relations intends to produce a documentation of the event which should be published in about three months.

Horst Staufer
(Die Welt, 21 July 1980)

Ancient Roman sundial found

Via Campo Marzio, a small street in the heart of Rome, has been closed to traffic while a team of German archaeologists try to unearth the world's largest sundial.

Its gnomon is the obelisk outside Parliament which was unearthed in 1748.

The actual dial, which measures 180 by 80 metres, is made of white marble tiles and has only just been found at a depth of 6.5 metres. Gilded bronze lions indicate the time of day and the seasons.

The German team is headed by Professor Edmund Buchner, president of the German Archaeological Institute in Berlin.

Says Professor Buchner: "I have been delving into antique clocks since 1971. But this sundial, the world's largest, is not mentioned in the literature."

In 1974, Professor Buchner was in Rome for a lecture. Having earlier learned about the existence of a huge sundial from the writings of Pliny (23-79AD), he equipped himself with old maps of the city and, using these maps on his walks, found indications of the big sundial.

According to Pliny it was erected in 9BC during the reign of Augustus. But it then remained unmentioned until the 15th century and the Renaissance era artist Raphael, who was then commissioner for antiquity.

Raphael made a list of bronze time zone fragments found when digging a latrine, during repair work on a wine cellar and when digging a grave in the San Lorenzo graveyard.

Professor Buchner went to work with a couple of mathematical instruments and established that the height of the gnomon was 29.40 metres.

He then established 72 reference points and, using a 1748 city plan, managed to pinpoint the position of the sundial.

He found out that both the *Ara Pacis*, the peace altar of Augustus which was unearthed in 1903, and his mausoleum formed part of the dial.

Even the place where his body was burnt some 350 metres away and his place of birth had lines drawn to them as part of the obelisk shadow lines.

SAD/dpa
(Hamburger Abendblatt, 17 July 1980)

■ HEALTH

Survey fails to dispel doubts whether biopsy cancer checks do more harm than good

Eighty per cent of West Germany's annual cancer toll are not killed by their original tumour. They die as a result of metastasis, or transplantation of cancer in tissues distant from the site of the original tumours.

Can they be said to die as a consequence of therapeutic measures?

Experiments seem to take a more positive course than reality. Animal experiments show that a cancerous tumour weighing only a few grams develops several million subsidiary cells every day.

Only one in a hundred of these metastases survives longer than a day and only one in a thousand survives a fortnight.

Critics of conventional medical practice say that especially when cancer has been diagnosed at an early stage metastasis is promoted by biopsy, which agitates hundreds of thousands of additional tumour cells, thus helping to spread the cancer.

If this were so, it would spell the end of the present early diagnosis strategy for some types of cancer.

According to Heidelberg psychosomatics specialist Rolf Verres, the decision whether or not to take part in the prophylactic programme for cancer frequently depends on the odds, which every individual must figure out for himself, that this would reduce the cancer risk.

But there can hardly be a reduced risk when biopsy promotes metastasis.

This controversy is not new. It was triggered by surgeon Julius Hackethal who, in one of his books, said it was medical interference that turned the domestic animal, cancer, into a raging beast.

As a result of this contention, tens of thousands of patients became confused and attendance at prophylactic checks dropped.

It was, hopefully, this consequence which prompted the ad hoc commission of the German Medical Association to delve into this issue, though of course with the customary delay.

The work of the commission was based on a thesis of radiologist Professor Ernst Krokowski who contends that "no mechanical injury of a malignant tumour can be considered harmless."

Based on a study of metastasis involving 568 patients, Professor Krokowski has come up with a mathematically substantiated thesis.

Metastasis usually sets in at the moment the patient begins his medical treatment. Asks Professor Krokowski: "Does tumour therapy programme its own failure?"

Though the commission members agree in principle that surgery of any kind can lead to metastasis, they consider this rather rare where biopsy for suspected cancer of the prostate is concerned.

Only a couple of years earlier, in 1978, a similar commission said that it was untrue that biopsy causes metastasis. Nothwithstanding this rethinking process, the commission holds that it is still unproven that biopsy increases the rate of metastasis in cases of malignant tumours.

But how a doctor is to explain such contradictions to his patient remains a well-guarded secret of the commission.



The panel is more precise on some other points. It considers biopsy indispensable in the following cases of suspected cancer: uterus, cervix, stomach, intestines, bronchial tubes and lungs.

According to the panel, there is no evidence or even suspicion of metastasis in these cases.

In cases of melanoma (skin cancer) and breast cancer, diagnosis and surgery frequently almost coincide (in terms of time).

The commission considers biopsy absolutely necessary in two types of malignant tumours: cancer of the prostate and bone cancer.

It points to the fact that, when faced with the necessity of amputating a young person's limb, the doctor must first make absolutely sure that there is a malignancy, notwithstanding the incalculable risk of causing metastasis.

So fas as cancer of the prostate gland is concerned, the question as to whether a tumour will grow slowly or rapidly is irrelevant because the only thing that really matters is to diagnose it in good time because of its deadliness.

Although the commission has taken a clear stand on some issues, much remains that makes no sense.

For instance, the panel considers it unproven that there is a link between the spreading of metastases and the time when treatment began. In other words, that treatment has triggered the spread of cancer.

Professor Krokowski has found the time span to be about a week. The commission, on the other hand, holds that this statement is "unclear in its formulation."

The verbal hearing of the biopsy critics was objective but led nowhere.

Professor Krokowski's criticism of biopsy is concentrated on cancer of the prostate and, the panel says, "rests only on theoretical speculation."

Professor Krokowski himself said that he was unable to complete his verbal explanation because "the panel could not follow the mathematical thought processes involved."

The question here is, what do top scientists mean when they speak of a "thorough verbal discussion?"

But then, such scientific panels have always found it hard to communicate. In 1978 Hanover epidemiologist Professor Manfred Pflanz walked out of such a hearing because he saw no way of presenting his position on polyunsaturated fats (risk factors, fats and degenerative cardiovascular ailments).

The biopsy discussion, the chairman said, was plagued by similar "bureaucratic shortcomings."

For instance, it took six months before the minutes of the panel meetings were sent to the detractors of biopsy, someone having forgotten to do so.

When the document was finally sent off after three reminders, it had already been approved and could no longer be altered.

Incidentally, Professor Krokowski does not oppose all biopsies. He only wants to ensure that the possibility of using other diagnostic measures (computer tomography) has been fully explored before resorting to biopsy.

The root of the dispute is a basic mystery of cancer research: what are the mechanisms of metastasis?

According to one of the textbooks "some 50 per cent of patients have been subject to unrecognised and microscopically small metastases at the time of the diagnosis."

Such subsidiary tumours can remain dormant over long periods, becoming active again after a number of years. But most of these mini-metastases fall prey to the body's immunological system.

Experiments carried out by Isaiah Fidler of the US Cancer Institute ... given rise to the suspicion that ... cells are not homogenous. It seems ... there is a highly metastatic "sub-population" latent in the tumour before ... sion begins.

Moreover, the immunological ... engages in a negative selection ... cancer cells. Tumour cells with ... the immunological system can ... way to a different group of cells ... much more resistant.

The time element runs ... these changes. Cancer cells take a ... time to increase the tumour volume ... 100 per cent. This time it takes ... double a tumour varies from case ... and from cell to cell.

In the case of breast cancer, the d... ing time is between 100 and 300 ... Metastasis sets in after the 12th ... ing. But unfortunately it takes 20 ... ings before the tumour can be ... diagnosed.

It is obviously a risky enterprise ... put these imponderables into a ... mathematical formula.

But the question "biopsy or no ... sy" also has a non-mathematical ... It is intolerable for a patient to live ... the suspicion of cancer without any ... being done to clarify things one way ... another.

The outcome of the discussion ... mains open on another point as well ... December 1979 Professor Krokow... warned (perhaps too hastily) that ... will one day be considered malpractice ... unless it is carried out in conjunction ... with an anti-coagulant or with radio... gical safeguards.

But it is up to research to find ... whether anti-coagulants or radiation ... prevent or reduce metastasis.

The commission admits, however, ... radiation prior to biopsy has "po... effects in certain cases of breast cancer."

Until the still open questions are clarified, biopsy will continue to be used as a sort of semi-technology. As American cancer researcher Lewis Thomas puts it:

"By its nature, biopsy is both highly complicated and extremely primitive. We must, however, go on using it until we truly understand the mechanisms involved."

Peter Jennich

(Die Zeit, 11 July 19...)

Influenza jabs are ineffective, Munich congress is told

Epidemiological studies show that influenza jabs as recommended by German doctors for certain risk groups are ineffectual, Professor Albert B. Sabin, the American inventor of the oral polio vaccine, recently told the Munich congress of the German Society for Social Paediatrics.

The vaccine protects against viruses which have nothing to do with the subsequent epidemic. Flu is caused by such a wide range of viruses that an effective prophylactic would have to immunise against all of them, Professor Sabin said.

He suggested that more research be done into the symptoms and causes of flu to develop a therapy that would enable a patient to go about his business as usual rather than be confined to bed.

Laboratory tests show that 80 to 90 per cent of those showing flu symptoms are not suffering from an illness caused by genuine flu viruses.

"I am convinced that anti-flu injections are unwarranted for all groups of the population," said Professor Sabin.

Flu in developing countries, regardless of the virus that causes it, is much more serious than in the Western world because of bacterial complications.

Measles serum has greatly reduced the incidence of this disease and complications resulting from it, but no developed country has as yet made use of this serum in such a way as to wipe out the disease.

Measles control in the developing countries, where the disease can be lethal in early childhood, has been rather ineffectual due to the small number of children immunised.

Professor Sabin urged further research into a spray vaccine that would be sprayed into the child's throat.

Professor Max Just of Basel said he anticipated the introduction in the next few years of a number of vaccines for children, among them against chicken-pox.

Though this disease is usually harmless, dangerous complications are possible, especially with leukaemia patients.

There has been ample experience with smallpox vaccine which provides excellent immunity. Complications are ... known, though the effects of this vaccine on the possible development of herpes zoster are unknown.

But his own research, the professor said, shows that this type of vaccine seems to have a positive immunising effect against herpes zoster in older people.

Professor Thomas Hellbrügge of Munich, the president of the Society for Social Paediatrics, stressed the importance of polio vaccination.

He said that everything must be done to prevent this horrible disease and that every subsequent generation of parents must be informed accordingly.

Professor Sabin told the congress that the polio vaccine has virtually wiped out the disease in the industrial world notwithstanding the fact that many children are not immunised. Immunisation in the developing world is still rare, he said.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 16 July 19...)

■ PEOPLE

Setback for Spacelab astronaut

West Germany has suffered a severe setback in its ambition to provide the first West European astronaut.

Two years ago, three West Europeans were selected from over 2,000 applicants to man the European Spacelab to be launched by US Space Shuttle.

They were German Ulf Merbold, Dutchman Wubbo Ockels and Swiss Claude Nicolier. Only one of them will be able to go on the first European space flight.

Nasa have now literally put a stone in Merbold's path. They have said they will accept Ockels and Nicolier to take part in their one-year training programme.

But Merbold, a 39-year old physicist from the Max Planck Institute of Metallurgy in Stuttgart, is not going.

The reason is a tiny nephritic stone which Ulf Merbold had in his ureter two decades ago. Today American and European doctors have certified that he is in excellent health.

And the tiny stone two decades ago was the only one. It was Merbold himself who told Nasa about it.

The American refusal to accept Merbold on their training programme smashes his chances of becoming a professional astronaut.

But the European Space Authority in Paris say his prospects of flying in Spacelab at some stage are in no way diminished.

This is because the health requirements for so-called payload specialists who only make one flight are not as stiff as those for mission specialists who make several space flights.

Merbold disagrees. His two colleagues



Ulf Merbold (Photo: dpa)

will be better qualified than he is, thanks to the Nasa training, and this means they are more likely to be selected for the first manned European space flight in 1983.

The Nasa decision is a blow to West German space policy. Bonn has paid more than half of the DM1.5bn development costs of Spacelab, whereas the other Esa countries are sharing the rest of the costs between them.

Another point is that Bonn agreed to pay more than half of the several million DM training costs for mission specialists, and now there will be no German taking part in this training.

The Nasa decision against Merbold came a week after Bonn had agreed with Esa to shoulder more than half of these costs.

At the moment, Bonn has only undertaken to pay for training from July to September 1980.

Merbold himself complained that he did not get enough support from this side of the Atlantic while there was still time.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 July 1980)

Bonn reports shortage of trainee diplomats

The diplomatic service has lost its attraction for young West Germans, so much so that the Foreign Ministry now has to advertise for recruits.

An advertisement notifying 55 vacancies for attachés appeared in German newspapers recently.

The number of applicants for diplomatic service posts has steadily been dropping in recent years, from 800 to now only about 450 per annum.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman says: "We only need 55 attachés but we sometimes have difficulty finding 55 out of the 450 that come up to our requirements." In recent years some posts have not been filled because of this problem.

Mind you, qualifications required are high. Applicants must have a university degree, ideally with first class honours.

They are expected to have a good command of French and English and good general knowledge of modern history, constitutional and international law.

They are expected to be able to offer more than a good education. They must have good manners and self-assurance. And they have to have a clean bill of health.

"We have about 6,000 enquiries a year," a spokesman says, "but most of them have little chance of being selected."

There are several reasons for the drop in the number of applicants. One is that in the past it was rare for students to be married when they graduated.

"And those who wanted to enter the diplomatic service then looked for a wife who would suit this career."

Today most graduates are already married, often to women who are working themselves.

Many potential applicants are therefore ruled out in advance because their wives are not prepared to give up their careers.

Diplomats do not earn brilliantly. A 26-year-old married attaché gets DM1,900 gross a month. Private industry often offers double this for graduates starting their careers.

Many graduates are also reluctant to start studying all over again; training lasts two years. Then come three years' probation.

Events such as the terrorist attack on the German embassy in Stockholm and the hostage-taking in Tehran have shown also that the diplomatic service is no longer as safe as it was.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman says young people who apply today are idealists. They want to get to know the world and gain insights into politics.

In the past the diplomatic service did not have recruitment problems because sons of diplomats often followed in father's footspeps.

Horst Zimmermann

(Bremer Nachrichten, 14 July 1980)

Cross-Channel parachute bid by Luftwaffe captain

Captain Werner Kindler of the Luftwaffe in Porz near Cologne will this week try to become the first man ever to cross the Channel by parachute.

Kindler, 47, already has a thousand parachute jumps behind him. On his Channel chute flight he will also be aiming to beat a personal record.

The longest parachute flight he has done so far is 30 kilometres in April last year, from the Dutch island of Ameland to the mainland, but west-wind assisted.

Daredevil Kindler has prepared for his flight with Swabian thoroughness. He has studied the relevant sections of the English and French coastline to memorise the details of local topography.

And he has ordered a special parachute, costing DM1,700, from the United States.

Kindler has spent a lot of money on his hobby, in which he drops from a plane at 10,000 metres, only pulling the ripcord at 1,000 metres. In the 9,000 metres of free fall, he hurtles earthwards at 400 kilometres per hour.

Kindler says that the emergency measures are by far the most important.

When he jumps over Dover he will be wearing a special protective suit to protect him from temperatures of minus 45 degrees.

He will also be wearing an oxygen



Werner Kindler (Photo: Sven Hamann)

mask, emergency radio, life-belt and signal flares.

Over the water he will be accompanied by a speed boat which will fish him out if anything goes wrong.

Kindler will have to wait a while before the boat catches up with him — he reckons he will be moving at an average speed of 80mph.

The success or failure of the para crossing will probably be decided in the first 15 minutes.

French and British coastguards, Channel ferries and air-sea rescue have all been warned, so Kindler reckons nothing can really go wrong.

He regularly takes part in formation parachute jumping throughout the world, a sport only recently introduced in West Germany.

These parachutists hold hands and form various figures and shapes in the air before their parachute open ...

Kindler reckons there are ab... hard-core formation parachutists ... out the world.

He says he does not feel fea... jumping, only just before he is a... jump.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 8 July ...)

Young foreigners feel unwanted

One in two foreign youngsters in ... country feels he is an unw... guest, according to a poll by the ... an Social Ministry in Munich, N... berg and Augsburg.

Six hundred foreign youngsters between 15 and 20 in the three ... were questioned. The results are ... ably representative for West Germ... a whole.

Two other findings were that ... per cent of youngsters fear being ... back to their countries of origin a... in four suffers from prejudice and ... crimination.

Largely because of fear of rejectio... Germans, these young foreigners p... to stick to themselves. More than ... cent said that they spent most of ... free time at home. The figure for ... was given higher: 90 per cent.

Every other foreign youngster ... said he spent his leisure time with ... parents or with friends of his ... nationality.

Over 40 per cent of those asked ... they would like to live in West Germa... ny for ever, but apart from hostility ... foreigners the main problem the... youngsters face is unemployment.

This is often a direct consequence ... their poor education. Although 30 p... cent of those asked had been in Bav... for more than ten years and about ... per cent for more than five years, ... 30 per cent had a German school-le... ing certificate and just under 50 p... cent had left secondary modern sch... after the ninth class.

Only 20 per cent had an apprentic... ship and the number of unemployed wa... 30 per cent. Of the young foreign... without a German school-leaving cert... cate, 90 per cent had no apprenticeship...

The poll also showed that ma... young foreigners do not know ... they should turn to with the... problems. Only about 36 per cent kn... anything about the advisory centres ... non-government associations.

Thirty-four per cent said they knew ... no organisations, and this included co... sulates and registration centres, ... could help them.

The poll scotched the commonly-he... belief that foreigners prefer to spe... their time on the streets and in railw... stations.

It showed that there was very little ... basic difference between the way foreig... youngsters and German youngsters spe... their free time. Sport, amusement ar... cades, cinemas and pubs are the prefe... red places.

Taking frequency of contacts, know... ledge of German and professional situa... tion together, the polls show that of all ... foreign youngsters Turks are in the ... worst position.

dpa

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 22 July 1980)

SPORT

Soccer star hits out at old-style managers

... outspoken views of Felix Magath, ... of Bundesliga soccer club SV ...burg, are excerpted from an address ... an international conference of team ...nagers held in Trier.

A football team is not a homogenous unit but a motley collection of ...very different characters.

Among the 20 or so players in a first ... squad there are often youngsters ... have just left school or ditched an ...prenticeship for the sake of becoming ...fessional footballers.

Some still live with their mums and ...s and are not very independent. Ideas ... as responsibility do not mean ... to them and in important areas they lack experience of life.

But there are also fathers of school-... children under contract. Their inter... are often completely different from ... of their younger team-mates, es...cially in their leisure time.

Youngsters prefer going to the disco, ...hereas older players like to spend as ...uch time as possible with their fa...ilies.

Uniform rules for both groups can ...ad to the following situations:

- A 30-year-old man — I an making ... point of not saying professional foot...aller — has to quickly stub out his ci...garette if someone knocks on his door ... training camp.
- A 20-year-old has to ask for permission if he wants to take his girlfriend to the cinema. Permission is granted, but his manager phones now and again to make sure he is at home half an hour after the film ends.

Situations like these are intolerable. They are breaches of human dignity. Checks are not the right method.

In my view managers make it too easy for themselves by trying to control even the players' private lives.

On the other hand, I believe players should pay stiff penalties when they commit flagrant breaches of discipline.

A team consists of 20 individuals with different temperaments, personalities and educational background, to mention but a few aspects.

Managers have all kinds of characters in their teams: hotheads and phlegmatics, the sensitive and the thick-skinned, the honest and the devious, Bavarians and Prussians.

To get his players into ideal physical and mental shape, the manager has to achieve the same effect with all his playing staff, and he cannot do this if he speaks the same language to all the players.

Does this mean that all would-be football team managers should have a degree in psychology before they are allowed to run a team?

No, this is going to far, But I do believe it would benefit everybody if more time and space were devoted to psychology on football management courses.

A third important difference between the players is theit skill at their trade.

In most teams there is a three-tier system: stars, regulars and substitutes.

Players are judged differently according to which of these three categories they are in. This refers only of their sporting value to the team. But they are also treated differently as persons.

As a result, tensions build up in the team, especially as it is not always possible to say exactly who is in what category.

These tensions can, ideally be positive, in terms of individual and also of team performance. But I believe the effects of the rivalry many managers sow in their teams is overestimated.

Negative tension predominates, from petty jealousy and intrigues to blockbusting tackles on rivals in training sessions.

Managers are fond of saying that every player in the squad is part of the team. So should they continue to make these distinctions?

My answer is: No way. The only differences should be in pay, and nothing else. But I must make one restriction here: on the role of the captain. And I am not saying this because I happen to be captain of SV Hamburg.

The ideal captain must have the trust of the manager and of his fellow-players. This means the manager must have a closer relationship with the captain than with the rest of the team.

This applies especially when it comes to keeping players informed of what is going on. The manager should not simply take measures and decisions.

He should also explain them to the captain, who in turn can explain them to his fellow-players.

This being informed should be the only privilege captains should enjoy. But I believe it is absolutely essential.

Players and managers both have the same aim: long-term success. But this is where identity of interests often seems to come to an end.

On all other essential points managers and players are more rivals than anything else. The player wants to earn as much as possible. And the club, represented by the manager, wants to save as much as possible.

For the team manager the players are a means to an end day in, day out. For the club manager this is only true once every few years, when it comes to discussing contracts.

It is clear from this that I regard the relationship between players and managers as essentially businesslike. But beyond this the club manager also has to ensure that his players are satisfied in and with their club.

As the business partner of the players the manager has an easy enough time of it. Whe he wants to persuade a player to sign a new contract, he only has to present his positive side and tempt him with lucrative financial terms.

If it is a matter of renewing expiring contracts the club manager can, with the exception of the few big stars, virtually dictate the conditions.

As there are no fixed rates in professional football, and pay and other conditions are freely negotiated, these negotiations are usually completed quickly and without complications.

Difficulties between players and club managers — unequal partners — are rare here.

As if to make up for this, they are all the more frequent when it comes to players' satisfaction with their clubs.

It seems to me that there is an enormous amount of work to be done here, and that West Germany club managers are still a very long way from realising the fact.

Let me give some examples of where I would expect more commitment from managers.

- First example: change of club. Players, often with their families, move to a completely new environment. When looking for houses or flats, they know little of local conditions. In such cases, it would be useful if these players got more support from managers.
- Second example: A manager who wants to persuade a player to join his club should bear in mind that the player's wife or girlfriend is almost equally important for the club. Wives and girlfriends play their part in whether the player is a success or a failure.

Whoever treats wives and girlfriends as mere appendages of the players is bound in the long or short run to come up against serious difficulties.

- There are times, when players are ill or have been banned for longer periods, when they feel out of it. In such cases, which are not the players' fault, the management acts on the principle: an inactive player is a worthless player.

SV Hamburg's Felix Magath (Photo: Nordbild)

The exact opposite is true. At no other time in his career is a player so dependent on his club as during such periods of enforced idleness. He needs boosting, to be given the feeling that he belongs.

Usually his colleagues support him by visiting him and phoning him up. But it would be is just as important to get support from the club. This is the job of the manager.

- Fourthly: German professional footballers earn a lot of money. They are often youngsters who would not earn a fraction of these sums in other jobs.

Here I believe that clubs should do far more than simply transfer salaries and bonuses to the players' accounts.

A good working atmosphere is not achieved just by paying players salaries of several hundred thousand DM a year.

For a good atmosphere the small attentions are as important in professional football as in any other profession.

Every company boss knows that happy workers are efficient workers. He knows that joint activities far from being a waste of time serve the purposes of the company.

He knows that workers identify more closely with the firm if they have the feeling that they are indispensable, whether this is true or not.

Identification by the player with his club is increasingly important. Club managers in future are going to have to pay far more attention to this aspect.

We footballers run a considerable risk of being influenced by false friends. The clubs should help ensure that we meet the right friends.

Felix Magath

(Welt am Sonntag, 20 July 1980)